

Hamas has secretly set up party

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — The militant group Hamas has secretly set up the nucleus of a political party, apparently in a first step towards competing in planned Palestinian elections, according to an internal Hamas memo obtained Wednesday. A possible Hamas decision to challenge the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) at the ballot box rather than through violence could remove a major threat hanging over Israeli-Palestinian peace efforts. According to the two-page document obtained by the Associated Press, Hamas has set up the core of a party, but is split over whether to make its formation public now or wait until it has negotiated the terms of political participation with the PLO-led Palestinian National Authority. "The issue of the political party for the movement has taken up a large part of our daily concern," said the Aug. 28-dated memo issued by Hamas in the Gaza Strip. "We have formed a preparatory committee and the brothers are doing their work. They have formed a political bureau and chosen its members," the document said. The memo said the names of the party's leaders were being kept secret out of security concerns, but did not explain further.

Volume 19 Number 6014

Sep 6, 1995
Column
hiking
covers from
heart surgery

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جordan Times يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية الرأي

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7-8, 1995, RABI' ALTHANI 12-13, 1416

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Exiled Senussi urges Qadhafi's fall

CAIRO (AFP) — The exiled crown prince of Libya, Mohammed Al Hassan Al Senussi, on Wednesday called for Muammar Qadhafi to quit power. The nephew of King Idris, deposed in 1969 coup, called on "Libya's neighbours to put pressure on Qadhafi to leave power (so that) we can hold elections... and so secure a safe and secure future for our nation." He urged the United Nations to "freeze all the assets of those who deal with Qadhafi" and to impose oil sanctions on Libya to dry out its coffers. Prince Senussi, 33, fled to London in 1988 after living under house arrest in Libya since his uncle's overthrow. He also accused Egypt in his statement of "duplicity" by helping Libya despite international sanctions imposed in 1992. "Egypt is now one of Qadhafi's closest allies," he charged. "I am giving notice to Egypt to take their hands off my country's wealth."

Turkish forces kill 10 rebel Kurds

DIYARBAKIR (R) — Turkish security forces have killed 10 Kurdish rebels in clashes in southeastern Turkey, regional security officials said on Wednesday. The emergency rule governor's office, based in Diyarbakir, said the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) guerrillas were killed in three different clashes in Hakkari and Bitlis provinces on Tuesday. It said seven of the guerrillas were killed in Isiklar village and Altindaglar Mountain in Hakkari province and the other three were killed in Agacdere village in Bitlis province.

Cannabis fields go up in smoke

BEIRUT (AFP) — Syrian and Lebanese security forces destroyed 1.25 hectares of cannabis in a remote area of the eastern Bekaa Valley on Wednesday, police reported. The Lebanese anti-narcotics agency monitored the destruction of the cannabis on three separate plantations 70 kilometres northeast of Baalbek in the Syrian-controlled valley. Foreign Minister Fares Bouez, meanwhile, urged international aid donors to keep their promise to help rehabilitate the Baalbek-Hermel region where drug production flourished during the 1975-1990 civil war. Together with Agriculture Minister Shawki Fakhuri, he made the appeal at a meeting with diplomats from 12 Arab and Western countries, including Japan, Australia, France, Germany and Saudi Arabia. Around 20 countries have pledged \$34 million to help Lebanon stem out the cultivation of cannabis and poppies from the Bekaa since a campaign to eradicate illicit drugs was launched in 1991.

Israeli to sing Arab hits in Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — In a reflection of gradual rapprochement between Israelis and Palestinians, a Moroccan-born Israeli whose Hebrew versions of Arabic songs have made her a star among both Jews and Arabs is planning to perform in Gaza next week. "It's my first time there and I'm very excited," said Zehava Ben of her planned concert before a Palestinian audience in Gaza City — the first such show by an Israeli artist. "I have a lot of admirers there and I receive many letters and telephone calls from them," she told Israel TV. Singing Middle Eastern style songs in ululating Arabic and Hebrew, the 24-year-old Ben is popular in the Arab World and bootleg tapes of her songs are common in Gaza. She was to be accompanied by 24 Gazan musicians in a programme featuring the songs of legendary Egyptian singer Um Kulum.

French nuclear test sets off explosions of world protest

Paris reiterates resolve to conduct more

Combined agency dispatches

FRANCE FELL the full blast of international fury Wednesday after the first of a series of nuclear tests at Mururoa atoll set off explosions of protest across the world.

Governments from Europe, to Latin America and the Asia-Pacific joined the outcry after a low-yield device was exploded deep under the French Polynesian atoll at 2130 GMT Tuesday in defiance of international opinion.

President Jacques Chirac told his cabinet France would show "absolute firmness" throughout its nuclear test series while Prime Minister Alain Juppé dismissed the protests as bordering "on hysteria."

Defence Minister Charles Milon called it an "initiative for peace, an initiative for independence," but other French politicians slammed the government.

Dominique Voynet, leader of France's Green party, accused Mr. Chirac of "holding in contempt" the peoples of the South Pacific, while former socialist trade minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn called the decision to resume tests "certainly a political error, but also a moral error."

Greenpeace called for a series of protests across

France late Wednesday, including a major demonstration at the Place de la Bastille in Paris. The opposition Socialist Party called on its supporters to join the protest demonstration.

The leading nuclear powers, the United States and Russia, expressed regret over the tests, although China, which recently carried out its own test, continued to remain silent on the issue.

"All of the nuclear weapon states agreed at the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty review and extension conference in New York in May 1995 to exercise 'utmost restraint' in nuclear testing pending the entry into force of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty," a White House statement said.

Japanese Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Mr. Chirac must have "a devil's heart" for allowing the resumption of nuclear testing and Prime Minister Tomio Murayama urged France never to repeat its test, but his government ruled out recalling its ambassador.

Australian unions banned work on Air France planes for 24 hours, while Prime Minister Paul Keating called the test an "act of stupidity" and the foreign ministry summoned the French ambassador.

The test deep beneath

Mururoa atoll on Tuesday churned up whitecaps inside the lagoon and sparked cheers and applause among technicians who set off the charge to check computer simulation.

Norwegia Legislator Hilde Johnson watched their reaction, and said: "Clapping after you've fired off an atomic bomb which destroys the environment and destroys the health of people for thousands of years is terrible and unbelievable."

"We are not testing bombs," the military commander on Mururoa, General Paul Vericel, told a news conference at Mururoa. "We are testing nuclear physics."

The blast equalised less than 20,000 tonnes of TNT, the French defence ministry announced. By comparison, the atomic bomb that destroyed Hiroshima was equal to about 15,000 tonnes of TNT.

Japanese Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Mr. Chirac must have "a devil's heart" for allowing the resumption of nuclear testing and Prime Minister Tomio Murayama urged France never to repeat its test, but his government ruled out recalling its ambassador.

Australian unions banned work on Air France planes for 24 hours, while Prime Minister Paul Keating called the test an "act of stupidity" and the foreign ministry summoned the French ambassador.

Activists protested in Papeete, the capital of French Polynesia 1,200 kilometres northwest of Mururoa. An Australian member of parliament, Peter

Knott, and a Japanese protester were arrested Tuesday for joining a demonstration outside the territorial president's office.

Up to seven more tests are planned before the end of May in an effort to develop simulations and test a new warhead. President Chirac said hours before the first test Tuesday that France could stop early if enough information is gathered from the first tests.

Meanwhile, 14 ships carrying environmental protests continued surrounding Mururoa, and two protesters — former British commandos — were arrested after making it through tight French security and reaching the atoll. One had spent the night there.

The flotilla did not detect any sign of the test, and most participants knew nothing about it until they heard radio reports.

Audrey Cardwell, a Greenpeace activist aboard the schooner Manutea, said the crew was preoccupied by three French warships which were circling it and several other small yachts in the protest flotilla around the test site.

Greenpeace would not say what it was likely to do next. Protests were crippled Friday when the French navy

(Continued on page 7)

Arafat hopes talks with Peres will lead to accord

GAZA (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat left Gaza for Egypt saying he hoped to remove obstacles to expanding West Bank self-rule during talks on Wednesday with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

"We hope we can solve the problems together, all the problems that have not been solved, including Hebron," Mr. Arafat told reporters before leaving Gaza.

But Israeli President Ezer Weizman, in remarks confirmed by his office, was quoted in the Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper as saying Israel was giving up occupied territory "too soon" and losing key bargaining chips for later peace negotiations.

Mr. Arafat and Mr. Peres scheduled their meeting for late on Wednesday at the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Taba.

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators have been trying to come to terms on an Israeli

troop withdrawal from Palestinian population centres and other aspects of Palestinian self-rule.

But they have left key issues for political leaders to resolve, including the release of Palestinian prisoners and the future of Hebron, the only West Bank city with a Jewish settler population.

Officials on both sides have cited Sept. 18 as a target date for a Washington signing ceremony for an agreement to extend 16-month-old self-rule beyond Gaza and Jericho into the occupied West Bank.

Israeli-Arab tensions flared in Hebron hours before the scheduled Peres-Arafat meeting. A leading Muslim official moved his offices from the city's outskirts to its contested centre on what he said were orders from Mr. Arafat "to protect the city from turning it into a Jewish area."

Angry Jewish settlers

attacked another Muslim office saying they would not tolerate "terrorist provocations" by Muslims moving official business next to their heavily guarded Jewish enclave. Nobody was hurt in the scuffle.

Meanwhile, Israel's justice minister asked his Palestinian counterpart to extradite seven Palestinians Israel says are wanted for murder, attempted murder or "terrorism" in Israel or the occupied territories.

Freih Abu Medden, in charge of justice in the Palestinian authority, asked Israel for information on four Gaza residents he said Israel had abducted, tried and jailed in Israel.

Mahmoud Abbas, the top Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) official who secretly negotiated in Norway the declaration of principles for autonomy, mean-

(Continued on page 7)

U.S. invites Talabani, Barzani to talks in Washington

DAMASCUS (AFP) — Rival Iraqi Kurd leaders Jalal Talabani and Massud Barzani have been invited to Washington this month for talks with U.S. officials, Mr. Talabani said Wednesday.

"I am invited, along with

Mr. Barzani, by Washington to discuss the latest developments in Iraq with American officials on Sept. 25," the head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) said.

He said U.S. officials had also asked his party and the rival Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), headed by Mr. Barzani, to meet in Dublin on Tuesday for follow-up talks on an August 11 accord the two sides signed in Drogbeda, Ireland.

"We hope the two meetings will take place," said Mr. Talabani, who was on a visit to Syria. There was no immediate word on whether Mr. Barzani would accept the invitation.

The Drogbeda accord, sponsored by the United States, brought a truce between the PUK and the KDP who have been locked in a bloody conflict over power and tax revenue in Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq since May 1994.

The follow-up talks will focus on the demilitarisation of the main northern Iraqi town of Erbil, held by the PUK, and the reactivation of the Kurdish administration which has been paralysed by the fighting, Mr. Talabani said.

"If the Bosnian Serb leadership is sincere in its intentions to ban the heavy weapons removed it must bring the Bosnian Serb army into check."

In the past 24 hours, just one Serb weapon had been detected moving, and that only about three kilometres inside the exclusion zone, the spokesman said.

This has nothing to do with peace negotiations, it is related to the U.N.'s attempts to enforce its mandate ... if it affects the negotiations, that's not its intent," Mr. Holbrooke told reporters in Zagreb.

In Sarajevo, U.N. spokesman Alexander Ivankovic told reporters there had still been no Bosnian Serb response, and no sign of compliance, to U.N. demands that they remove heavy weapons from a



Anti-nuclear activists stage a "die-in" in front of the French consulate in Maobatian (AFP photo)

Parliament approves 3% hike in sales tax

Sharif Zeid promises 10% salary increase

AMMAN (J.T.) — Parliament on Wednesday approved a three per cent increase in sales tax to make up for government losses resulting from the reduction of income tax and customs duty.

The vote came after Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker reiterated that his government would offer a 10 per cent hike in the salaries of civil servants.

The legislation, which increases the sales tax to 10 per cent on all imported and locally manufactured goods as well as services, will take effect after His Majesty King Hussein endorses it with a Royal Decree.

The new sales tax is expected to bring JD 30 million annually into the treasury, which stands to lose a similar

amount as a result of tax reductions aimed at promoting foreign investment.

Parliament is debating a new Income Tax Law, reducing the amount of money private businesses and individuals were having to pay.

Two other bills designed to attract foreign capital and make Jordan more attractive for businessmen have been submitted to Parliament and are likely to be approved before the end of the month.

The government is seeking to enact the economy-related bills before the Middle East and North Africa summit to be held in Amman on Oct. 29-31.

The Sales Tax Law was passed by 47 votes from among the 71 members of the

80-seat Parliament who attended the session.

In his address to the House, Sharif Zeid reminded the deputies of his earlier announcement in the previous session dedicated to discussing supply policies that the government was committed to raise the salaries as of the beginning of 1996. The government is currently involved in a study on the salary scales and hopes that it will honour its commitment by the start of next year, he said.

In the earlier session the prime minister said that the government was working on providing a dignified life for its employees through salaries, incentives and retirement and social security benefits.

Universities need extra fees to raise number of seats -- Saoud

Deputies suggest varying solutions to address gap in supply and demand for chances in higher education

By Se'da Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The government said Wednesday any increase in the number of students admitted at state-run universities should be coupled with an increase in fees.

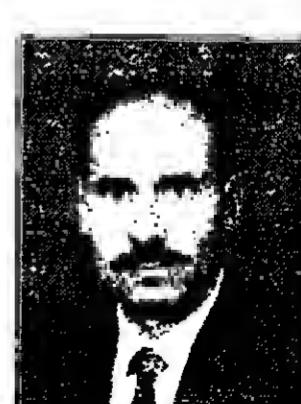
Minister of Higher Education Rateb Saoud told the Lower House of Parliament during a special session that the universities suffer from financial difficulties and need additional revenues in order to widen the base of admission. The minister was referring to wide criticisms over the large gap between the seats available and the number of applicants.

"If we examine the universities' budgets closely we find that they suffer from a real crisis," said Dr. Saoud, also a member of the House.

"On the contrary, Syria encourages the two groups to settle their differences and works for the stability of the region," the PUK leader said.

"What we have heard from our Syrian brothers encourages understanding between the two parties and the Council for Higher Education.

(Continued on page 3)



Rateb Al Saoud

"There is no escape from the need to provide the adequate funds to enable the universities to perform their role properly," he said.

Some lawmakers agreed with the minister while others raised questions over various problems related to education and admission standards in the Kingdom.

Most of the deputies — centrists, leftists and Islamists — agreed on the need for evening shifts at the universities. But they differed over the quota system, or the Royal endowment, that allocates seats for students from the "less fortunate" regions, or remote areas.

"Why would we let rich parents pay thousands of dinars to educate their children abroad while they hardly pay a couple of hundred dinars as fees at a Jordanian university?" He said. "Isn't it fair to ask the rich people to pay for all the expenses (paid by the government) and grant the poor special scholarships?"

While lawmakers had different views about the best ways to overcome the problem, they were unanimous in calling on the government to amend the admission policies of state-run universities to go hand in hand with the increasing number of students.

Al Abd Deputy Abdul Hadi Majali, speaking on behalf of the 15-member Al Abd Bloc, said that students who can afford it should pay the "real" fees.

(Continued on page 7)

Russia maintains denial of any secret Iran deal

MOSCOW (AP) — Top Russian nuclear officials tried again on Tuesday to defuse tears of secret contracts with Iran, saying all the deals with Tehran are open and peaceful.

"You could argue that any development of nuclear technology is a step towards creating nuclear capability. But I could also say a secondary school education is a step towards developing nuclear capability," said Mikhail Ryzhov, head of international affairs for the Atomic Energy Ministry.

There have been several press reports claiming Russia has signed secret contracts to provide Iran with reactors, as well as conflicting statements about the status of existing contracts to finish construction of Iran's Bushehr nuclear plant.

"These are peaceful contracts. They pursue no military goals," Eduard Akopyan, head of the construction company for the Atomic Energy Ministry, told a news conference Tuesday.

He and other officials blasted last week's report by a British newspaper that said Russia had signed a separate, secret deal in August to provide two additional reactors for military purposes.

Mr. Akopyan called the report "sick imaginings." When he read the report, he said, "my ears curled and my hair stood on end."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is expected to demand clarification over the Bushehr deal during a trip to Moscow next week.

Officials say the confusion may stem from the fact that

Russia has two, not just one, contracts for the Bushehr plant.

One, for a pair of new 440-megawatt light water reactors, got little attention when it was signed in May 1993. It was never implemented for what Mr. Akopyan called "technical and administrative reasons."

The second, signed in January, provoked bitter protests from the United States, which fears Iran will use the technology to develop nuclear weapons.

A Russian atomic energy delegation visited Iran at the end of August to discuss construction and financing arrangements for the first reactor at Bushehr on the Gulf.

But a diplomat here said Wednesday it could be premature to launch construction of the two additional reactors in view of Iran's payment difficulties.

"Unless the Russians are crazy they will wait to be paid for the first VVER-1000 reactor before launching work on these two reactors," the diplomat said, adding that the work could take years.

Iran has agreed to pay 90 per cent of the costs in hard currency, in installments, and the rest in various goods manufactured in Iran.

Some 15,000 Russian technicians and other experts will be involved in the construction of the plant, which will take four years to build.

It is partly equipped by Siemens, which started the project during the reign of the Shah.

According to the Russian Atomic Energy Ministry, construction of the 1,000-megawatt reactor is to start in October and deliveries of nuclear fuel from Russia are to start in 2001.

Another official told AFP the deal with Iran was "a normal commercial transaction."

Who is behind the Talibans?

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The lightning offensive by the Taliban Islamic militia in western Afghanistan has thrown the spotlight back on the enigmatic religious students and again raised the question: Who is behind them?

The Talibans, led by students trained in Pakistani Koranic schools, burst onto the Afghan political scene late last year and quickly captured a third of the country.

But the movement, which intends to set up an Islamic state, seemed to stall after being forced back

from the gates of Kabul in March by forces loyal to Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani.

Mr. Rabbani's administration was even more specific on Tuesday, claiming the Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and other outside groups had been instrumental in helping the Taliban take Herat.

Pakistan, which maintains its official position of non-interference in Afghan affairs, denies aiding the Taliban, just as had previously denied aiding another opponent of Rabbani, Hezb-e-Islami chief Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

"With the Talibans, it's a

Pakistani solution that is in progress," said one former Afghan diplomat.

Mr. Rabbani's administration was even more specific on Tuesday, claiming the Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and other outside groups had been instrumental in helping the Taliban take Herat.

Pakistan, which maintains its official position of non-interference in Afghan affairs, denies aiding the Taliban, just as had previously denied aiding another opponent of Rabbani, Hezb-e-Islami chief Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

As before, fingers are pointing at Pakistan as the force behind the movement, a charge Pakistan denies.

"With the Talibans, it's a

member of Congress who oppose U.S. aid to the Palestinians. Administration officials add that the festivities may even persuade the international community to deposit a little extra cash in the dwindling accounts of the Palestinian Authority.

It is difficult to imagine someone actually believing that raising glasses at the White House will diminish, even in the slightest, the opposition of large segments of the Israeli population to the transfer of responsibility for security in the occupied West Bank to the Palestinian police. Nor will a glitzy ceremony in the Rose Garden improve the mood of Gaza's unemployed. On the contrary, it may serve to sharpen the criticism by Hamas that Arafat is deaf to the suffering of his people. Will a Bill Clinton handshake narrow the gap on the arguments over Jerusalem, Jewish settle-

ment in Hebron, or Israel's request for the extradition of terrorists who escaped to the territory of the Palestinian Authority? Will an invitation to this flamboyant ceremony convert in one fell swoop the members of Congress who are indisposed to opening the U.S. Treasury for Arafat?

The expectations that have risen around the half-baked celebration of peace only add to the difficulty of already complicated negotiations.

Another ceremony, held far from the scene of constant anxieties, attacks and prosaic concessions may actually increase the alienation of leaders from their publics. The empty space of the Syrian representation in the pew of honored guests will no doubt deepen the isolation of President Hafez Assad, the only participant of the start-up Madrid Conference whose will be glaringly absent from

the Washington event.

The surprise of the Oslo agreements and the euphoria that accompanied the signing of the South Law in September, 1993, cannot be repeated. The governments of Rabin and Clinton mistakenly believed that peace speaks for itself. They abandoned the field to Israel's right wing and its American Jewish allies for whom the deal with the Palestinians is aathema both to their ideological beliefs and their political interests. The New York newspaper Jewish Press encourages its readers to call

the Embassy of Israel to Washington and the prime minister's office in Jerusalem to protest against the "beleaguered dictatorship reminiscent of a Nazi period."

Jewish militants are skillfully using statements from the president of Israel, Ezer Weizman, who has repeatedly called on the government

Arab American University in Jenin will be first of its kind, founder says

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Palestinian university being set up by a Jordanian group in the West Bank town of Jenin will be one of the unique institutions in the Middle East in that it will strive to maintain the standards of the renowned Stanislaus State University in California, one of its founders said Wednesday.

Maher Irshaid, a former member of the Jordanian parliament representing Jenin, said the Arab American University was already in the process of setting up an English-language centre to enable students to have sufficient language proficiency that would enable them to absorb the level of teaching standards of Stanislaus State University.

The Palestinian National Authority based in the Gaza Strip has issued a letter of full support for the university and the U.S. State Department has also verbally indicated its backing.

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

According to Mr. Irshaid, the university hopes to be "one of its kind in the Middle East because of its close association" with the California institution.

"We will have all access to Stanislaus' facilities," said Mr. Irshaid. "They are giving us E-mail facilities, and access to their computers and libraries in addition to their curricula and training of our teachers."

Marvalene Hughes, president of Stanislaus was recently quoted as saying that "I'm not aware that an American university has had an opportunity to help build a university from the ground up in another country."

"This is a conceptual idea at this time for development of a four-year comprehensive and graduate university using the American system of higher education as a model," said Ms. Hughes, who visited the region recently to finalise the arrangement.

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in the U.S. is available to their people."

"This will be a private university that is funded largely by Palestinians and Jordanians who are committed to their people," said the Stanislaus president. "They want to assure that high-quality education modelled on our system in

Cancelled summit clouds Northern Ireland peace process

DUBLIN (R) — Britain voiced disappointment on Wednesday at Ireland's decision to cancel a crucial Northern Ireland summit but stood firmly by its refusal to call all-party talks while IRA guerrillas hold on to their guns.

"It's obviously serious but it's something to be steady about. We're disappointed, we're slightly surprised to be honest," Britain's Northern Ireland secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, told British and Irish radio.

Sir Patrick said Irish Prime Minister John Bruton's abrupt decision to cancel Wednesday's summit less than 24 hours before it was supposed to start had thrown into doubt the setting up of an international panel to deal with the disarming impasse. Asked if such an international commission might still be set up, Sir Patrick was cool. "Well, I don't think that is necessarily the case," he said.

Sir Patrick said: "One thing is absolutely clear: people want to see their politicians

talking but the vast majority don't want them talking with a shadow of a gun falling over the table."

Ireland scuppered the summit because of British insistence that the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and pro-British Protestant gunmen start shedding arsenals used in a war for and against British rule which stopped with twin ceasefires one year ago.

The Irish government is not interested in setting pre-conditions for all-party talks, nor is the government interested in artificially postponing difficult questions," a government spokesman told Reuters late Tuesday night.

Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring said officials of the two governments were in touch Wednesday to try to "narrow the gap" between them over the crucial issue of "decommissioning" arms which has deadlocked the peace process for months. Mr. Spring said Mr. Bruton was studying his diary to see if he could postpone or

shorten a planned visit to Canada starting Friday to attend a revived summit with Mr. major "sooner rather than later" — we would hope in a matter of days," he told Irish Radio.

He denied that the Irish government had buckled under pressure from Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, after three-hour talks in Dublin last week at which it spelled out its refusal to get involved in disarmament before all-party talks.

"The reality of our position is that we have to adopt a position which will bring all parties to the negotiating table," he told Irish Radio. Mr. Spring said one option under consideration to narrow the gap between Sinn Fein and the British government was a gesture by the IRA over shedding its stocks of ground to air missiles, Semtex plastic explosive and heavy machine guns.

Sources close to the peace process said the Irish government hoped Sinn Fein would get the IRA to issue a statement pledging not to

use weapons for offensive purposes or in a first strike.

But senior Sinn Fein spokesmen say this would be tantamount to a surrender by the guerrillas, who are still training and carrying out dummy attacks according to Irish security sources.

Mitchel McLaughlin, the Sinn Fein chairman, told Irish Radio that the idea of an international commission to defuse the crisis over disarming was pointless if it was just "another way of packaging an IRA surrender."

The summit failure made the prospect of an early holding of all-party Northern Ireland talks even more remote and undermined Mr. Major's limited room for manoeuvre because of domestic problems.

With only a single-digit majority in the British parliament, he relies on the support of Protestant Unionist parties, which want to keep Northern Ireland British and say they will never sit down with Sinn Fein while the IRA is a standing army.

Dole vows no compromise with Clinton

CHICAGO (AP) — In a blunt message to the White House and his Republican presidential rivals, Senate majority leader Bob Dole vowed Tuesday to "fight to the end for fundamental conservative change."

The Republican front-runner for the 1996 presidential race set the stage for battles over welfare and the budget as he aligned himself with economic conservatives. "This will not be an autumn of compromise — make no mistake about it," Sen. Dole said in a speech to the Economic Club of Chicago. "This fall we will win our fight for revolutionary change vote by vote and bill by bill."

Mr. Clinton responded from California, saying, "there are those who say there should be no compromise this autumn, but I say that good people of good will want us to find common ground."

Answering concerns among conservatives that he may not be with them, Sen. Dole delivered a detailed critique of Mr. Clinton's

economic policies. He attacked moves ranging from the 1993 tax increase to what Sen. Dole derided as heavy-handed regulation that he said was slowing growth and holding back wages.

The Clinton economy looks positively anemic," Sen. Dole said, leaving little doubt he believed Republicans can have the upper hand in 1996 on the centerpiece issue of Mr. Clinton's successful 1992 campaign.

Sen. Dole promised "a programme that embodies opportunity and responsibility for our people — one that strives to create an economy which frees the genius of Americans from the heavy hand of government."

Part of that programme, he said, would be lower taxes and support for a constitutional amendment that would require a three-fifths vote in Congress to raise taxes.

Beyond that, however, Sen. Dole was heavy on optimistic rhetoric about the potential of the American worker and short on

U.N. ups to half million the number of N. Koreans made homeless by flooding

GENEVA (AP) — Half a million people have been made homeless by flooding in North Korea and nearly half the country's annual grain production has been destroyed, reports said.

U.N. relief teams said the latest homeless estimate was up from 150,000 reported by the United Nations last week.

On Tuesday, a Japanese news agency quoted a letter from North Korea to the Geneva-based International Federation of Red Cross Societies saying recent floods destroyed or damaged 1.9 million tonnes of grain, nearly half the annual production.

The floods late last month submerged 331,000 hectares (817,570 acres) of farmland, damaged 1,974 kilometres of irrigation canals and harmed 482,406 farm animals. Kyodo News Service quoted the letter as saying.

North Korea said a total of 1,901,000 tons of grain were damaged, the agency's Geneva-dated report said. The Red Cross estimates that North Korea annually produces from 4 million to 5 million tons of grain, it said.

Some 60-70 people are missing and feared dead after they were swept away by flash floods caused by recent heavy rains, North Korean officials have told the relief teams, who have been assessing damage in the isolated country since last week.

Madeleine Moulin-Acevedo, spokeswoman for the U.N. Department of Humanitarian Affairs, said the teams had not yet been able to estimate total damage. But just in Chagan province, northeast of the capital Pyongyang, the team assessed flood and landside damage to houses, schools,

hospitals and cropland at \$1.8 billion.

The North Korean government originally estimated the floods from rains in July and August caused \$15 billion in damage throughout the country of more than 21 million people.

So far the U.N. team has visited three of the most affected areas — Hwanghae, north Pyongan and Chagan provinces, a department report said.

It said Huichon city, 120 kilometres northeast of Pyongyang, had recorded 1,230 millimetres of rain last month, with some 442 millimetres falling on Aug. 17-18.

The U.N. team said North Korean needs donations of warm clothing and fabric, blankets and quilts, kitchen utensils, medicines and food, mainly rice.

Greece, Macedonia to sign accord on dispute

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Greece is ready to lift its economic embargo against Macedonia as part of an agreement aimed at resolving a longstanding dispute with the former Yugoslav republic, a U.N. mediator said Tuesday.

The foreign ministers of Greece and Macedonia plan to meet next week at the United Nations to conclude the agreement, Cyrus Vance said.

Greece has refused to recognise its northern neighbour as Macedonia, claiming the former Yugoslav republic usurped the name. The republic declared independence in 1991.

Greece also has demanded that Macedonia drop an ancient Greek symbol from its flag and amend its constitution to remove references which Greece says reflect terri-

torial claims.

Macedonia is asking for an end to the embargo Greece imposed in 1994 to press Macedonia into changing its flag and constitution. Mr. Vance said Greece was prepared to lift the embargo.

"The agreement will resolve the outstanding issues between the two countries and I hope will form the basis of future friendly relations between the parties," Mr. Vance said.

The agreement "covers all of the items except a final decision on what the name will be," he added.

Mr. Vance would not give specific details of the agreement, but said it covers such things as the question of the constitution, the question of the borders, the question of the flag."

Simpson jury hears infamous 'n' word for first time

LOS ANGELES (R) — The jury in the O.J. Simpson double murder trial heard for the first time Tuesday bow former detective Mark Fuhrman used the racial epithet "nigger" and displayed his hatred of blacks.

That Sen. Dole did not endorse any of the competing versions of the flat tax that are gaining support among his fellow Republicans, including several presidential rivals.

That Sen. Dole was out of Washington at all on the day the Senate returned from its summer recess was evidence of the difficulty he faces juggling his dual — and sometimes competing — roles as Senate leader and White House hopeful.

He held the front-runner's position throughout the early 1995 jockeying, but was embarrassed last month by a poor showing in an Iowa straw poll, where he could muster only a tie with Texas Sen. Phil Gramm.

Sen. Dole blamed the showing on spending too little time in the state, but rivals believe the poor Iowa showing proved Sen. Dole's vulnerability.

Ms. Bell's appearance came after six days in which the sequestered jury had not heard any evidence as lawyers argued over what has been referred to in the court as the "n" word.

The jury of nine blacks, two whites and one Hispanic, who had appeared increasingly bored in recent weeks during tedious scintillating testimony, took copious notes Tuesday. One or two appeared to be disgusted at what they were hearing.

Ms. Bell said Mr. Fuhrman expressed his feelings about blacks during their first meeting at a Marine recruiting station in a Los Angeles suburb after Ms. Bell mentioned the name of Marcus Allen, a black football star.

She said ex-Marine Fuhrman was tall and handsome and she thought he might have been attracted to her friend. But at the mention of Allen's name, she said, Mr. Fuhrman's "demeanor changed and his attitude towards me changed. He said that when he sees a black man driving with a white woman in a car he pulls them over."

"I said what if they didn't do anything wrong. He said he'd find something. I asked what if they're in love? He said, that's disgusting."

Ms. Bell said Mr. Fuhrman started talking about burning blacks, which was "probably the most frightening thing I had ever heard." She said that when Mr. Fuhrman issued his verbal attack on blacks, she got "teary-eyed" and left.

Mr. Vance said he would not give specific details of the agreement, but said it covers such things as the question of the constitution, the question of the borders, the question of the flag."



The crew of Soyuz TM-22 spacecraft; German Astronaut Thomas Reiter (left), Russian cosmonauts Yuri Gidzenko (centre) and Sergei Avdeev (right) and the crew of the space station Mir (background) give a brief press conference aboard the station after their successful docking (AFP photo)

No sexy Martini commercials, please - we're British

LONDON (AFP) — British television has banned a commercial for Martini since it supposedly links alcohol with sex appeal, a spokesman said at the Independent Television Commission (ITC). The commercial, used in a number of other European countries, shows a young woman who gets up to walk toward an attractive Martini-drinking man. Her miniskirt catches on the chair and starts to unravel, gradually revealing her bare posterior. The commission has not received any complaints, but ruled that the commercial ran counter to its rules against advertising that suggests that drinking alcohol increases sex appeal.

Sri Lanka begins 'women-only' bus service

COLOMBO (AFP) — Sri Lanka has launched a "women-only" bus service following complaints that women were sexually harassed and sometimes molested using public transport, Transport Board Chairman Ramal Siriwardena said. The "women-only" buses — with a male crew

— will operate on six routes to take office workers between the capital Colombo and its suburbs, said Mr. Siriwardena.

Reiter, 37, Avdeev, 39, and Gidzenko, the 33-year-old mission commander, are scheduled to return to Earth on Jan. 16.

Reiter, the mission's flight engineer, plans a five-hour space walk Oct. 20, the first for an ESA astronaut. He'll also take part in a docking this fall between the Mir and the U.S. space shuttle Atlantis.

Pakistan president sacks Punjab assembly

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — President Farooq Leghari abruptly dismissed the provincial Punjab government charging rampant corruption and incompetence, news reports said Wednesday.

Analysts here say the president is a close ally of Ms. Bhutto's, dismissed the Punjab government at her behest.

Since her re-election in 1993, Ms. Bhutto has been trying to consolidate her power in the country's four provinces.

In the critical Punjab province, Ms. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party formed an uneasy coalition government after winning only 94 seats in the 240-seat provincial legislature.

The balance was tipped by independent legislators.

Pakistan's rough-and-tumble politics, where large sums of money often are used as an incentive to gain support, politicians regularly switch sides.

In the Punjab, Ms. Bhutto is expected to try to win over independent legislators and disgruntled members of Mr. Wattoo's Pakistan Muslim League.

Analysts say Ms. Bhutto is likely to try to muster

enough votes for her party to win an outright majority in a vote of confidence in Punjab. The vote would probably take place before the end of the two-month governor's term.

Manchester, England — across the Baltic sea?

DUBLIN (AP) — Question: What do Minsk and Manchester have in common — aside from the letter m, the north, lots of industry, and plenty of bad weather? Answer: The Irish teenager headed for England who ended up in the Belarusian capital, Anne Keane checked in at an Aer Lingus desk at Dublin's Shannon Airport on Aug. 21, saying she was on the B.A. (British Airways) flight to Manchester, England, a statement from the Irish airline said Thursday. Check-in staff misheard and booked her onto the other b. A.: a Belavia Airlines flight to Minsk, Belarus, a former Soviet republic. Ms. Keane, on her first-ever flight, did not realize she was on the wrong plane until staff told her two hours later. Flights from Dublin to Manchester normally take about 40 minutes. The teenager was met by an interpreter at Minsk, and flown back to Manchester. Aer Lingus flew members of her family to Manchester to join her on her stay with relatives, in compensation for the misunderstanding.

In the Punjab, Ms. Bhutto has been trying to win over independent legislators and disgruntled members of Mr. Wattoo's Pakistan Muslim League.

Analysts say Ms. Bhutto is likely to try to muster

the major parties and win, he said.

"The two parties still have a monopoly on access to the voters and a fairly firm fix on the campaign funds, so it's hard to see anybody winning without a huge amount of money and name recognition," he said. Mr. Alston noted that billionaire Ross Perot has both won only 20 per cent of the vote when he ran as an independent in 1992.

But even without a direct challenge, the exodus puts Clinton leadership credentials in doubt and could cost him votes in the 1996 elections.

Since the 1994 elections, some 100 Democrats have switched parties at the federal and local levels, an unprecedented number.

According to Mr. Van Dyke, who also notes that those choosing to leave office have "never been as highly visible as this."

The five Democrats already retiring include Paul Simon of Illinois, David Pryor of Arkansas, Bennett Johnston of Louisiana, James Exon of Nebraska and Howell Heflin of Alabama.

Those who defected include senators Richard Shelby of Alabama and Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado.

"It's very hard to take on

Democrats jump ship as party sinks

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The retirement of Senator Claiborne Pell has dealt another blow to the Democratic Party, which has been plagued by lawmakers jumping ship since the Republicans seized Congress for the first time in 40 years last November.

The Senate has been the party's most visible sore spot. Two members who were elected as Democrats have switched parties, and on Tuesday Rhode Island's Sen. Pell announced he will join four others retiring next November.

That news — coupled with rumours that Georgia Senator Sam Nunn may follow suit — has sent shock waves through the party.

Worse still, Sen. Bradley is considering running as an independent against Mr. Clinton in 1996, an avenue being eyed by an increasing number as the president's ratings continue to hover in the 40s.

Mr. Van Dyke warns that trend could eventually result in three or four parties and a fractured political system that is unworkable without the parliamentary coalitions European governments have.

But Chuck Alston, spokesman for the conservative Democratic leadership council, disagrees.

"It's very hard to take on

their right to their jobs by Sept. 20. The combined value of the monthly salaries of the employees on the list totalled more than \$11 million in August.

World News



Jordan Times, September 7 and 8, 1995

5



This photograph from the National Hurricane Centre shows hurricane Luis heading towards Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands (AP photo)

Hurricane rakes small islands, heads for Puerto Rico

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, U.S. Virgin Islands (R) — Hurricane Luis ripped through Antigua and other islands of the northeastern Caribbean and aimed its swirling winds at the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico Wednesday.

Although reports were sketchy because of downed telephone lines, a spokesman for Antigua Prime Minister Lester Bird told a Trinidad radio station that about 65 per cent of the buildings on the island of 65,000 residents had been severely damaged.

"We've had a lot of damage," Antigua government spokesman Norman Gus Thomas said. "This was a mammoth hurricane compared to Hugo," he added, referring to the 1989 killer storm.

There were no initial reports of deaths on the twin island republic of Antigua and Barbuda, but the Caribbean News Agency reported two boys were injured by a collapsing roof. A Dominica fisherman was feared dead after trying

to save his boat Tuesday, and a tourist died in Guadalupe Monday.

Hundreds were left homeless on Antigua, roofs were peeled off scores of buildings, including one emergency shelter, and some structures were flipped upside down by wind gusts clocked at up to 175 mph (282 kph), according to Puerto Rico Gov. Pedro Rossello, who agreed to send some emergency supplies.

"The hurricane in Antigua has been devastating," Mr. Rossello told reporters, adding that he had spoken with Antigua's prime minister in a brief and static-filled telephone call.

Some of the flattened buildings were at tourist resorts overlooking Antigua's Barrier Reef, a famed snorkeling area. Other hotels were flooded from rising seawater or *blinding rain* of more than 12 inches (30 cm), according to amateur radio operators monitoring transmissions from Antigua.

At 11 p.m. EDT (0300

GMT), Luis' winds eased to 125 mph (205 kph), but its huge diameter of 700 miles (1,126 km) remained a threat for islands in its path. Luis was 55 miles (90 km) north of St. Maarten, moving northwest at 8 mph (13 kph).

The storm began battering the U.S. Virgin Islands early Wednesday, a pounding likely to last about 12 hours, according to forecasters. A slight turn to the north was expected to keep Luis' center off Puerto Rico, but the island would still feel hurricane-force winds.

A shipment of 5,000 tons of medical supplies was to be flown to Antigua from Trinidad, after the government managed to get word out that its hospital was badly damaged.

On Anguilla, a 90 square-kilometer island, houses were destroyed and parked airplanes were blown off the airport runway, said Billy Penn, a spokesman for the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Puerto Rico. Emergency aid for all of the Leeward Islands was

being coordinated by the U.S. State Department's Office of Federal Disaster Assistance, Mr. Penn said.

The hurricane left tens of thousands of Caribbean residents without electricity, running water or telephones. Thousands in the U.S. and British Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico crowded into emergency shelters as Luis' outer bands of tropical force-winds licked at the islands.

Forecasters said current weather patterns would likely steer Luis safely out to sea after passing Puerto Rico.

Many residents were well prepared for Luis because of vivid memories of hurricanes Hugo and Andrew, which rampaged through the Caribbean and through south Florida, respectively.

Hugo caused billions of dollars damage and killed more than two dozen when it screamed through the Caribbean in 1989. Andrew, the costliest hurricane in U.S. history, caused \$25 billion damage and 38 deaths in suburban Miami in 1992.

Mexico peace talks reopen on government offer

SAN ANDRES LARRAIN-ZAR, Mexico (R) — The Mexican government and Zapatista guerrillas returned to the negotiating table Tuesday and were expected to lock horns on an offer to include the rebels in wider national talks on political reform.

Ten rebel commanders travelled from mountain and jungle bases to this poor highlands town in the southern state of Chiapas to sit down with Interior Ministry negotiators.

The start of talks was overshadowed by an outbreak of violence Monday in the village of Nuevo Limar, 70 kilometers to the north, which increased political tensions.

Several hundred support-

ers of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) took 25 people hostage and burned at least 15 houses in the village, stronghold of support for the opposition leftist Democratic Revolution Party (PRD), human rights workers said.

A spokeswoman for the Roman Catholic Church-run Fray Bartolome De Las Casas Human Rights Centre said the hostages were later released.

Five previous rounds of Chiapas peace talks have stalled as the Zapatistas have demanded nationwide reforms such as fair elections while the government has insisted any accord be limited to the state where the rebels took up arms.

In a bid to break the dead-

lock, President Ernesto Zedillo last weekend offered to give the rebel Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) a seat at all-party talks on national democratic reforms.

A spokesman for Mr. Zedillo said nothing had been worked out yet on how exactly the guerrillas would take part in national talks, but he said the government may not necessarily insist on them giving up their weapons first.

The government's chief negotiator, Marco Antonio Bernal, said late Monday that the Zapatistas had been aiming too high with their national demands.

Rebel leaders say the talks in San Andres are "exhausted" in their current form and

have called on political parties and civilian groups to join the peace process.

A group of rebel commanders this week said they wanted more precise details of Mr. Zedillo's offer before agreeing to join national democracy talks and insisted they would not lay down their weapons until their demands for indigenous rights and greater democracy have been met.

The Zapatistas launched

their rebellion on New Year's Day, 1994, and at least 150 people were killed in the first 10 days. There has been virtually no fighting since then and the Zapatistas' influence has been on the wane in recent months.

ing the assailants were rogue UNITA troops. Others among the wounded pinned the blame on "ninjas," the local nickname for government crack police troops.

U.N. envoy Alioune Blondin Beye told reporters Tuesday there were indications the incident could have been a clash between rival diamond mining companies. He declined to name the firms.

"Whoever did it, it is symptomatic that across vast tracts of the country there is no law other than gun law," said Andrew Manley, an Angola watcher for the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit.

"It shows there are deep faults in the peace process," he added. "It will be quite a while before there can be a return to any kind of normalcy."

The diamond-rich Lunda provinces, deep in the country's interior, have become Angola's "wild east" since the peace accords were signed.

Former South African army officers, who once fought alongside UNITA, now help guard state-owned diamond mines run with the

help of foreigners. Rogue rebel and government troops frequently stage ambushes and make off with hauls of gems, although Friday's attack was one of the bloodiest so far.

Under the peace plan, a new army of 90,000 is to be formed from the 180,000 armed troops currently fielded by both sides.

But their demobilisation and fusion is to be overseen by a 7,000-plus force of U.N. peacekeepers and, so far, only about a half of the promised blue helmets have arrived.

The first 100 Brazilian peacekeepers landed at Luanda Airport Tuesday and a ship carrying another 100 was expected to dock in port later in the day.

The Brazilian contingent of engineers, to be posted in Calomboloca, 70 kilometers outside Luanda, is to specialise in repairing roads and bridges wrecked by the war.

But even with the full U.N. force in place, it will be difficult to control rogue elements who earn their living by what Mr. Manley calls "freelancing."

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, quoted one kidnapped worker who then escaped as saying

Senate supports Clinton's total nuclear test ban

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate gave tacit support Tuesday to President Bill Clinton's policy to ban all U.S. nuclear tests.

In a compromise proposed by Sen. James Exon, it kept \$50 million in a \$265 billion defense authorisation bill to prepare for experimental tests but added a provision by voice vote specifying that the bill did not authorise such tests.

The Nebraska Democrat said the bill allows preparation for the tests only in case a proposed international comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty is not approved next year.

Mr. Clinton announced on Aug. 11 that the United States wants international approval of a test ban treaty permitting no tests, not even experimental ones with explosions equivalent to about four pounds of TNT.

The Senate faced a vote later Tuesday on whether to compromise on a U.S. anti-missile defense plan that Clinton administration officials say would violate the 1972 U.S.-Soviet anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty.

The Nebraska Democrat said the bill allows preparation for the tests only in case a proposed international comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty is not approved next year.

The compromise worked out by senior senators and scheduled for an evening vote would allow faster development of a U.S.

defence against limited missile attacks but back off provisions Clinton advisers say would violate the ABM treaty.

The Senate voted 51-49 last month in favour of a new U.S. policy in the bill for constructing a number of anti-missile missile sites by 2003 to defend against limited missile attacks even though the ABM treaty allows just one.

The White House threatened to veto the proposal. Officials including Secretary of State Warren Christopher said it would violate the ABM treaty and so risk Russian refusal to go ahead

with two treaties reducing long-range nuclear weapons.

The compromise would order development of the "multiple site" anti-missile defence for construction by 2003 but require a decision later on whether actually to build it.

It would also direct Mr. Clinton to seek negotiations with Russia on revising the ABM treaty to permit the U.S. multi-site system and, if negotiations fail, to consult Congress on legally withdrawing from the treaty.

Amnesty urges U.N. to rework host-country accord after China

BEIJING (APP) — Amnesty International called Wednesday on the United Nations to re-examine host-country agreements for its conferences in the wake of China's handling of the gathering on women here.

"We feel that the country agreements between the U.N. and those governments that host world conferences should be revisited," said Pierre Sane, secretary general of the international human rights watchdog.

"I think the U.N. should obtain from those governments certain basic commitments" on access and visas, providing facilities that are conducive to debate and an outcome that can be useful" and guaranteeing freedom of expression, Sane told

journalists.

"These are really basics if we want world conferences to succeed, so we think the U.N. should, before holding the next world conference, evaluate this conference organisationally and see what needs to be redrafted in the country agreements," he said.

Controversy surrounding China's handling of the fourth World Women's Conference began in April when it shifted the site of the gathering's NGO Forum from central Beijing to Huairou county, 50 kilometres north of the capital, in apparent effort to isolate participants.

Its subsequent refusal to grant visas to certain delegates and its surveillance and harassment of many par-

ticipants since the Forum began last week has drawn further criticism from Amnesty and other governments, including the U.S. government.

China has been accused of violating its agreement with Forum organisers, who are afforded little protection by the U.N.'s separate host-country document.

Amnesty's representatives said the existing U.N. agreements, which were drawn up before the emergence of numerous NGOs, were very broad and failed to go into the details needed to guarantee basic rights.

They said signals that security at Huairou had eased earlier this week were short-lived and that the situation had not improved, with

Nobel lashes back at paper over reports of influence

STOCKHOLM (AP) — A month before the 1995 Nobel Prize announcements, a selection committee is waging war on a leading newspaper over a series of reports charging that a drug firm influenced the medicine award nine years ago.

The Nobel Medicine Prize Committee, angered over the report, claims the Dagens Nyheter newspaper has ignored its side of the story and is demanding a review of journalistic ethics in Sweden.

Its year-long investigation

was based on documents, interviews and statements, including one by a former Italian Health Ministry official accused of taking bribes. He said Fidia spent \$8.4 million to win the award.

The newspaper said Fidia built ties with researchers linked to the Karolinska Institute, organised symposia for Ms. Montalcini, and even paid the way for a former Nobel Committee member and his wife to a seminar in Spain, the paper said.

The paper's series began appearing Sunday, and the initial story did not contain comment from the Prize Selection Committee. Tuesday's edition included a story in reaction from committee members: some denied the charges while others refused to comment

until the series is finished.

Officials of Fidia, which later went bankrupt, have not commented on the reports. Ms. Montalcini has denied the reports.

In a statement, the Nobel Committee said nobody influenced the award, although it admitted many.

It said a few scientists cannot sway the whole process, Ms. Montalcini had been a candidate for years and the scientific community has applauded the award.

By adding different unrelated facts to each other, Dagens Nyheter has constructed a "story" that gives a false impression," said the statement, signed by committee Chairman Sten Grillner and Secretary Nils Ringertz.

"We ... will raise the question of how the ethical rules of the press should be changed in order to avoid this type of devastating journalism," the statement said.

In an interview, Mr. Grillner recommended new rules granting aggrieved subjects the same amount of space in a publication to respond to each article. The voluntary rule could be enforced by the independent public press

ombudsman, created in 1968 by Swedish publications to give people a way to rebut media reports, he said.

That suggestion was dismissed by the ombudsman, Arne Jigenius, who said his office already urges publications to print rebuttals. He has not yet received a complaint from the Nobel Committee.

One of the reporters on the project, Bo G. Andersson, also scoffed at the Nobel suggestion.

"I'm not at all afraid of a discussion of our ethics," Mr. Andersson said. "And this shows how dangerous this (investigation) must be for them."

Mr. Andersson said the core issue is secrecy, which makes it possible to abuse the Nobel Prize selection process.

This year's six prizes each are worth about \$987,000, and will be announced in the first half of October. Five were created by industrialist Alfred Nobel in 1901, and Nobel Memorial Prize in economics was added in 1968.

CHEVROLET

Cavalier

- 4 Cylinder Engine Injection
- Four Wheel ABS
- Dual Air Bags
- Safety Cage Construction
- 2 Years Warranty Or 50,000 Km
- Availability Of All Spare Parts

AUTOTECH TANOBUS

Automotive & Spare Parts Technical Trading Co. Ltd.
Show room Prince Mohamed St. Tel: 06 5160 Fax: 06 54760
P.O.Box 102 Amman 11118 Jordan

Opinion & Analysis

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7-8, 1995

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation

Established 1975

جordan Times

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 607161

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Little to celebrate

ISRAEL'S POMPOUS celebration of the 3000th anniversary of King David's takeover of Jerusalem Tuesday was an act of provocation of the first order. King David was not the first, nor the last leader who conquered the Holy City. The mere fact that the Jews conquered Jerusalem implies that it had belonged to another people before them. Sure enough, those people were the Canaanite Arabs, who were the first to inhabit the city.

The Jews were one of many nations and religions that captured Jerusalem and made it their capital. Jerusalem fell into Arab and Muslim hands in the seventh century and continued to remain under their domination until the 11th century, when the Crusaders wrested it from them. In 1187, however, Saladdin recaptured the city and it remained effectively under Islamic rule until World War I, when the Ottoman Empire was defeated by the Allied powers and Jerusalem came under direct British colonial rule till 1948.

The decision, therefore, to mark Israelis' control of the city can only invite other nations and religions to commemorate their own periodic capture of Jerusalem. The end result is to rekindle old wounds that may arouse afresh old religious rivalries and animosities.

Whatever the length or timing of their control of the city, the early Israelites cannot stake a unilateral claim to a place that is equally holy to Christians and Muslims. Both Muslims and Christians have grounds to celebrate the capture of the city in one era or another.

No wonder that only a few nations represented in Israel had accepted Israel's official invitation to take part in Tuesday's celebrations. Even Washington and other major Western capitals boycotted these provocative festivities. The message being that the Israelis' claim to the occupied city in its entirety is illegal, unacceptable and will never be recognised. We cannot but express our satisfaction with the decision of the international community to cast a negative vote on Israel's deliberate policy of antagonising the Muslim and Christian worlds on such a burning and sensitive issue as that of Jerusalem.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Wednesday described NATO air strikes against Serbian positions in the former Yugoslavia as helping the Western powers to regain credibility in the eyes of the world. In reviewing the atrocities committed by the Serbs against the Bosnians, Tawfiq Abu Rub said that the Serbs were supported by the Russians for ethnic and religious considerations over the past three years during which the NATO powers refrained from taking any action to deter the aggressors. The world was shocked at these attitudes on the part of the major world powers and felt pessimistic about NATO's obvious indifference to the military operations, said the writer. But in the light of the recent sweeping Croat attacks, which seemed to be supported by NATO, and the Alliance's effective air strikes against the Serbs the world began to see a new light and a new hope for an imminent end to the sufferings of the Bosnians and an approach to a settlement to the ethnic conflict in the embattled nation, added the writer.

A WRITER in Al Dustour Wednesday described Israel's celebrations of the 3000th anniversary of King David's conquest of the city as a severe blow to the Arabs and Muslims because it consecrates the Jewish state's denial of other religions' rights to Jerusalem. Mohammad Kawabs said that Jerusalem holds the key to peace and war, noting that none of the invaders of the city over the centuries was able to settle permanently in it, and the invaders had to leave no matter how long they stayed there. The writer said that the ceremonies staged in the city are bound to inflame the feelings of Arabs and Muslims because these celebrations constitute provocation that could jeopardise the peace process. The Rabin government, said the writer, says "no Israel without Jerusalem" but we say "no peace without Jerusalem." Tampering with the Jerusalem question, he said, is like playing with fire.

The View from Academia

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

Courteous motoring: A possible solution to an ongoing crisis

ONE MAJOR cause of the deteriorating traffic situation in our society is the behaviour of the motorists themselves. It is a fact that a significant number of our road-users drive rudely and too aggressively, thus making driving on our roads extremely uncomfortable, risky and life-threatening.

The overall percentage of reckless drivers throughout the Kingdom indeed quite high. Judging from what one actually sees on the road, one would not be exaggerating to say that at least half of our motorists drive in a manner which is not at all acceptable.

I say the "overall" percentage because not all those who drive, aggressively or recklessly think of themselves (or actually are) rude, aggressive or reckless drivers. The motives and psychologies of motorists who "misbehave" on the road are obviously complex, even though the result or outcome is the same.

It may be beneficial, for the purpose of accuracy, to distinguish between rude, aggressive and reckless drivers and those who drive rudely, aggressively and recklessly, the first category refers to those motorists who are consciously and deliberately violating the codes of decency and safety. They are careless, insensitive, playful, silly, suicidal, impulsive, subversive, sadistic and misguided individuals who are what they are for a variety of reasons. Their behaviour on the road is no different from their behaviour in the office, at home and in the neighbourhood. Whether we like it or not, there are bad people out there.

The second category comprises those people who think they are forced to behave rudely, aggressively and recklessly. Deepdown, such people are civil, nice, polite, altruistic, hospitable, unselfish and so forth. You meet them at work, at home and in the neighbourhood and you find them extremely courteous, likeable, reasonable, sensitive, etc. But out there on the road, they are entirely different. The minute they drive, a demon, a monster, a vampire, a werewolf or a ghoul possesses them.

The reasons standing behind such remarkable transformation in the behaviour of individuals belonging to this

category vary from one person to another, but two seem to stand out above the rest. The first has to do with the conception (to a great extent a misconception) of what a "good" driver is in our society and the second with the desire among motorists to defend and assert themselves.

If you listen to people in informal gatherings (forget the formal in which people say what they ought to say not what they really feel and think), a "good" motorist is the one who drives fast, who is extremely skillful, who zigzags on a highway, who gets extremely close to hitting the vehicle in front of him before passing it, who does not let anyone pass him, who puts one hand on the steering wheel and lets the other hang out of the window casually — not the one who gives the right of way to others, who sticks to his own lane, who drives at a normal speed, who is alert, who is open-minded, who is civil and courteous, who drives safely, etc. This is the image many people in our society try to live up to. It is interesting, linguistically and culturally, that the "good" driver is referred to in many circles as the "bitter" driver. This is, of course, the greatest compliment you can imagine. Sadly, many of our motorists are "bitter" indeed.

Other motorists behave the way they behave because they believe that you cannot survive on our roads unless you become aggressive, rude and reckless. Many of them believe in a saying which is widely quoted in our society, a saying which is at times true but at times false: If you do not become a wolf, wolves will eat you. To apply this saying on the road is, in my opinion, a big mistake. We cannot remedy a misbehaviour by a misbehaviour. On the road, people are not judged according to their reasons and motives, but according to their performance. A motorist who behaves rudely is ultimately rude. But he is also dangerous, and is contributing to the messy road situation from which we are all suffering. Those motorists who provoke you on the road are misguided, irresponsible and stupid; and if you respond in kind, they are turning you (without your knowing it) into a misguided, irresponsible and (excuse me for saying it) stupid motorist. What do they

care? Unfortunately, drivers belonging to the two categories are to be found anywhere and everywhere in our society — in the city and in the countryside, among the illiterate as well as the educated, among the young as well as the old, among the men as well as the women, among the rich as well as the poor, among the ugly as well as the handsome, among those who drive the brand new Mercedes and BMW as well as those who drive the old Subaru and Lada, etc.

The solution here lies in the hand of the motorists themselves, i.e. you and I. Let's forget the authorities for the time being. Let's forget what the police can and cannot do and ask ourselves (us the caring and responsible) what we can do.

The solution is simply to be courteous. Yes, even to those who are rude and unnecessarily aggressive. If someone is in a hurry, justifiably or not, let us give them the right of way, even if the right of way is ours. If someone tries to provoke us, let them go in peace. If someone is speeding maniacally behind us, let's make room for them (even pull over, if we have to) and let them pass. If we behave in a civil, courteous manner towards others, we may make them feel a little ashamed of themselves and thus rethink their behaviour, or at least avoid an accident. But we if we put it in our head to be courteous, cool and to take it easy, we may spare ourselves the psychological trauma that comes as a result of our response to provocation. There is nothing to be gained from responding in kind to provocation but harm, discomfort and danger. The worst thing that can happen to us on the road is to be emotional about others' behaviour and to drive and respond instinctively. Let our minds, our reason, our politeness and our civil manners and spirit guide our behaviour.

We descend from a hospitable, courteous culture. Let's be ourselves. Let's deal with other motorists the way we deal with guests in our homes. This is something we can do, if we put our mind to it. There is nothing to lose but much to gain.

The writer is co-managing editor of the Palestine-Israel Journal. His article is reprinted from yesterday's issue of the Israeli newspaper, *The Jerusalem Post*.

By Dan Leon

MONDAY'S MAGNIFICENT firework display in the skies of Jerusalem cannot alter the political reality of the city on the ground. Neither can bombastic political statements.

At the opening ceremony for the Jerusalem 3000 celebrations, the prime minister repeated that "undivided Jerusalem is the heart of the Jewish people and the capital of the state of Israel. Undivided Jerusalem is ours."

Undivided? On the same day I tried to get a taxi from western Jerusalem to an address in the east. The driver, who looked at me as if I was mad, refused. As he drove off I saw the sticker on his back window about our rights to the whole of Eretz Yisrael. What a world of fantasy!

May Olmert had told the European ambassadors who decided not to attend the opening ceremony — they were to be joined in their absence by most of the diplomatic representatives in Israel, including the U.S. ambassador — that "Jerusalem was the capital of Israel before you, and will be the united capital of Israel long after your tests."

This demagogic cocktail doesn't help to unite the city.

The view that because we were here first we have exclusive political rights in Jerusalem is about as logic-

al as claiming that 3,000 years of Judaism since King David carries more weight than 2,000 years of Christianity, or 1,400 years of Islam. Faith can't be measured by putting the data into a computer and pulling out the results of the calculation.

Jewish rights in Jeru-

Loving wisely



al are unchallengeable. It is only when they become exclusivist that they are untenable.

Jerusalem will be united only when the 419,000 Jews and 160,000 Palestinian residents of the city agree it should be so. Unilateral decisions are not only illegal in international law, they

are also incapable of being put into effect on the ground — except by force. And as we know from the lessons of the intifada, there are limits to the efficacy of force.

Our case would be stronger were it not for our record of discriminating against East Jerusalemites

since 1967 in every sphere of life. For example, approximately one third of the population who pay their taxes receive less than 10 per cent of the budget for municipal services.

Much energy is being wasted in skirmishes over the legality or otherwise of Palestinian institutions in

Jerusalem, Orient House and Palestinian labels on school textbooks. The arguments will exercise no influence over the way in which Palestinians and international public opinion regard Orient House as the political centre of the Palestinian people to what may be the future capital of the Palestinian state.

Teddy Kollek suggested that the Palestinian capital should be in Ramallah. Before 1949, Golda Meir proposed Haifa as Israel's capital, while Ben-Gurion suggested Kurnub, a site in the Negev. Such ideas are quickly consigned to the dustbin of history.

The idea that Jerusalem can serve as the capital of both Israel and of Palestine has been attacked as impractical and unprecedented. This is arguable. But the status quo is also impractical. It pertained in the territories for 27 years, but in the end of the reality proved stronger than the occupation. Sooner or later Jerusalemites will have to learn to share the city peacefully.

Amos Elon wrote some four years before the 3000 festivities that "Jerusalem is a city loved too well and yet never quite wisely... Almost everywhere you turn, the chords of memory swell the chorus of nationalism and faith. A little forgetfulness — or compromise — seems unlikely under these circumstances."

Compromise in Jerusalem entails not a decision to give up our sovereignty, but a readiness to enter into a partnership with others in mutual recognition. That would be "loving wisely."

employment. He also wanted to foster the all-important "social cohesion."

How you define social cohesion, however, depends to a large extent on how you define the "social fracturing" to which Mr. Chirac repeatedly alludes. Mr. Chirac and Mr. Juppé seem to share a very traditional perception of social division between haves and have-nots; "capitalists" and "workers." This is the gap they think should be narrowed.

Mr. Madelin sees the social fracturing in different — his advisers contend, more "modern" — terms, as between those who are "protested" and those who are "exposed". In the first group are not so much the "bosses," as the bosses of state-protected enterprises and those in secure (often public sector or state subsidised) employment. In the second are entrepreneurs, small businessmen, as well as those who cannot penetrate the establishment world of "secure" work.

Mr. Madelin's idea of social cohesion would entail not only improving the conditions of those in the "exposed" sector, but challenging some of the advantages enjoyed by those in the "protected" sector.

The Independent

Un peu trop radical for Chirac

After only three months, a resignation crisis has revealed a deep split in France's new government

ties — creating jobs and cutting the domestic budget deficit — were irreconcilable. Within three months it seems to have become clear that one of these projects had to take precedence: Mr. Juppé thought it should be social cohesion and job creation; Mr. Madelin thought it should be cutting the deficit. Mr. Juppé won.

There is room for different interpretations of what happened and why. The kindest view is that Mr. Juppé always intended, and still intends, to change the way the French labour market operates, but believes that everything could be lost if the public sector and the unions get wind of what he really has in mind. According to this view, Mr. Madelin's only fault was to be too frank. As one French commentator put it, he acted like a "bull in a china shop," while Mr. Juppé moves "like a cat with velvet paws."

That theory might have some substance had Mr. Madelin appeared to be

quietly getting at least some of his own way on the deficit — but patently he was not. In preparations for the 1996 budget he had mooted cuts in employers' contributions to social provision for their employees, cuts in the top rate of income tax, a swinging reduction in defence procurement and a reduction in the number of people employed directly by government. The draft budget allocations show that all his preferences were overruled by the prime minister's office.

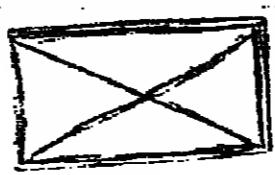
Yet Mr. Madelin was far from being an unknown quantity when he was appointed. He made no secret of his views, either during the campaign or afterwards. Indeed, a number of them figured in Mr. Chirac's manifesto, which Mr. Madelin helped to write.

They included the overriding need to cut the deficit, reductions in higher rates of income tax and better conditions for small and medium-sized businesses. As Mr. Madelin said with heavy irony after

his dismissal: "I doubt that people voted for Mr. Chirac in the expectation that he would implement the policies of the trade unions."

What may have been underestimated, however, by Mr. Chirac and by Mr. Juppé, was the essential difference between themselves and Mr. Madelin. He is radical and ideological by temperament; they are pragmatists — to both the best and worst sense of the word. The policy differences that results are very similar in nature to those that in Britain have divided Thatcherites from old-style Tories.

During the election campaign this crucial distinction was blurred, perhaps deliberately. Mr. Chirac was advised by his daughter, Claude; that "change" was the ticket on which the young would be prepared to elect him, and that "social cohesion" was a desired element of that change. Against the old establishment candidate Edouard Balladur, Mr. Chirac was able to present himself suc-



SOCIETY ON THE MOVE

Converging on Amman as part of MENA mania

It is still unclear whether Prime Minister of Japan Tomiichi Murayama's planned tour of the Middle East region will include a stop in Jordan. The Japanese government leader is said to be particularly keen to have an audience with His Majesty King Hussein and while it is uncertain whether the King will actually be in Amman at the time of the visit which is scheduled to start on Sept. 14, Tokyo is still on hold. What is near certain, though, is the nearly sudden visit planned by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. Considered as "very important," the visit by Mr. Gonzalez and his as yet unnamed accompanying team, is expected to be a dual-mission attached, as well, to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit scheduled to convene in Amman next month and the Barcelona conference on the European Union (EU) Mediterranean policy, which is scheduled for November. First, as Spain holds the current presidency of the EU, Mr. Gonzalez' trip means that the EU is coming for a meeting with His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian leadership. And second, the Spanish premier comes on a bilateral mission to further solidify Jordanian-Spanish relations. Both missions, observers say, are a confirmation of the importance attached to Jordan and its role in the Middle East.

WINEP & COMPANY: And from the land of the "peace broker," the United States, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy (WINEP), the Washington-based organization which describes itself as "a public charitable foundation committed to scholarly research and informed debate on ways to build peace, security and prosperity in the Middle East," has linked up with Jordan's Institute of Diplomacy to convene its annual policy conference in Amman — "our first-ever conference in an Arab capital city," says WINEP Executive Director Robert Satloff. That it is the institute's first such forum in the Arab World is attributable to the signing of the Jordan-Israeli peace treaty because, until that event, the work of WINEP has been, and most certainly continues, to be guided by an agenda bent on Israeli interests. Dr. Satloff, who succeeded Martin Indyk (now U.S. ambassador to Israel) as head of WINEP, has pulled together a serious roster of speakers to evaluate the Jordan-Israel peace experience one year on to assess the potential of building on the model of that agreement to promote regional security and economic development." Those speakers are to include His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdul Karim Kabriti, the Kingdom's ambassador to Israel, Marwan Muasher, Israeli Ambassador to Jordan Shimon Shamir, Abdullah Toukan, science advisor to King Hussein, General David Ivri, director-general of Israel's ministry of defence, Ambassador Samuel Lewis, former ambassador to Israel and former U.S. State Department policy planning director. Among the other participants expected to attend are former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco (who in the early 70's drew shouts of "La, La Sisco!" from masses of Jordanians protesting a mission he was sent on at the time to the Middle East); Vice President of the military aerospace giant Northrop-Grumman James Roche; former staff director of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Graeme Bannerman; and Director of the Rand Corporation's Middle East Programme and a former under-secretary of defence Zalmay Khalilzad. This latter group would appear to be the one most interested in what Dr. Satloff said was another objective of the conference: to "examine the U.S. role in ensuring the success of the Jordan-Israel peace effort and in building upon that achievement for wider peace process objectives."

MILES FROM HOME: From the South American continent, Brazilian Foreign Ministry Assistant Secretary General Evan Canbrava, who is concluding a three-day visit today after preparing for official Brazilian participation at

the MENA conference, took the road less travelled Wednesday and visited Jordan's famous desert castles. Mr. Canbrava, who was once Brazil's ambassador to Israel, indicates that Brazil's minister of industry and trade, who happens to be a woman, is tipped to be the official appointed to head Brazil's delegation to the conference. Meanwhile Ambassador Fernando Alves tonight hosts a reception to celebrate Brazil's 173rd anniversary of its independence. It was not known whether Mr. Canbrava would delay his return home to partake in what are usually highly festive celebrations.

PAINTING THE RIGHT PICTURE: While the government and private sectors scurry to pull together plans, proposals, and preparations in time for the October Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Economic Summit, Mark Senior, a free-lance writer for Time magazine has been working out of his room at the InterContinental Hotel since Sunday putting together a country profile on Jordan for the world renowned publication. The British Mr. Senior's forte is writing country profiles — his portfolio includes Lebanon, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, and Poland. His job here is to produce a special section to coincide with the MENA conference, and thus appear in the issue to be published the week of the conference. Admitting that he has been given a free-hand in how to develop the section, Mr. Senior said he would focus on most appropriate elements which, he said, in the case of Jordan he sees as "trying to paint a softer picture of a country of genuinely outgoing, friendly people." "I am conscious of 'popular' image which is generally used to portray the people of this region and thus I believe others have a misguided impression of the Arab World." His aim then in the profile, he said, is to try to draw attention to the riches in Jordan's culture history, natural attractions and diversity. Having painted that picture, he will address the tourism industry "first and foremost." Mr. Senior cited a recent survey conducted by the World Travel and Tourism Council published in Time on June 12 which identified main regions of world and said the Middle East was slated for the greatest growth by a very large margin. Among that region's countries, it said, Jordan, because of its natural attraction, was probably the most interesting and could expect a soaring growth in tourism over the next 10 years. The eight to 10-page profile is financed by Jordanian commercial enterprises. Mr. Senior, who is on his first trip to Jordan, says "My heart is very much in the Arab Middle East." He finds Jordan's continued willingness to reach rapprochement after having been the victim of so many disasters highly admirable. It should be worth the wile to see how Jordan steps out on the Time magazine stage, directed by Mr. Senior.

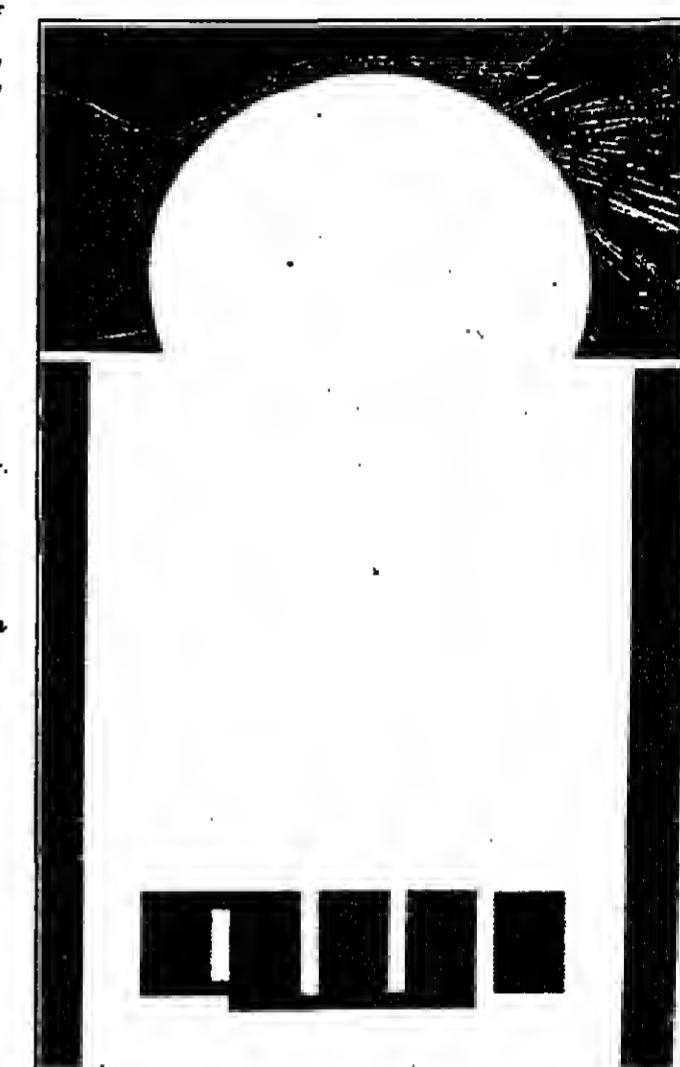
WHAT LIST? If the Time magazine profile succeeds in its mission, we know of one travel agent who will be quite relieved. Ghada Nojar of United Travel, the general sales agent for United Airlines in Jordan, had a real score last week when in a conversation with CNN correspondent in Jordan Ben Wedeman, he erroneously told her that Jordan had been placed on the U.S. State Department's travel advisory listing. Najar, who was already disturbed by what she saw as sensational reporting in the Western media about the precarious situation that Jordan had been placed in following the defection of Iraqi General Hussein Kamal and two of President Saddam Hussein's daughters to Jordan, promptly contacted the Ministry of Tourism to check on Wedeman's allegation. The U.S. embassy denied there was any such categorising of Jordan. Wedeman, who took over CNN operations in Jordan from Stefan Kossonis, fortunately did not repeat the erroneous story. Just imagine the consequences on all sides if he had.

LEAVING NO LOOSE ENDS: Jean-Pierre Pierard Saturday leaves his post in Amman as economic counsellor of the Delegation of the Commission of European Communities, just about a month ahead of the MENA conference. But here since April 1991, Mr. Pierard has had sufficient time to experience major developments affecting Jordan and the region and leaves a well-set up office for his successor, Ramon Mestres, a Spaniard, who has already arrived in Amman with his wife and two boys from the EU headquarters in Brussels. Mr. Pierard, who has had fulfilling postings in Bangkok and Delhi prior to arriving in Amman, thought that Jordan would be a quiet posting. But coming in on the tail end of the Gulf War, witnessing the process of peacemaking, and being involved in the building up of relations between Jordan and the EU through the new economic agreement, the MENA and Barcelona summits, Mr. Pierard says that Amman has been his best posting yet. He will return to base in Brussels and be in charge of more than 3,000 EU personnel posted abroad. The two-to-four-year assignment will involve much travelling, but mostly in Europe, he says. As for his family, wife Solange, a popular player in Amman's bridge club, left earlier with the couple's sons Thomas and Jean-Jacques (Amman Little Leaguers) who had to return to school. The Pierards will be missed by all those who got to know them.

UNIVERSITY HOP: Meanwhile, beyond the realm of MENA mania, Amin Mahmoud has taken on the reigns of the presidency of yet another university — this time, Amman University — and this time, Dr. Mahmoud says, he will be in that seat for a while. Dr. Mahmoud began his university presidency track as a founder and the first president of the Jordan University for Women in 1990. Two years into that tenure, Dr. Mahmoud, a historian, was appointed as minister of culture in the reshuffled Cabinet of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Mojali (who, himself, having been president of the University of Jordan was asked to be an advisor to the first women's university in the Kingdom). When Dr. Mahmoud took over the ministry, another former University of Jordan President and former Minister of Culture, Mohmoud Samra, succeeded him as president of the Jordan University for Women. Dr. Mahmoud's short-lived tenure as minister was followed by his appointment to a second private university, Zeituna. Now only one academic year after assuming that post, Dr. Mahmoud says he moved to Amman University where he expects that the combination of it being the first of the private Jordanian universities and his own varied experience in this sphere of higher education will make for significant opportunities in the years to come. Zeituna University is currently being steered by Acting President Khaled Zoubi, another alumnus of the Mojali cabinet having served as minister of parliamentary affairs.

NEW NHF FACES: A vivacious, people-friendly new team is heading the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF). It is made up of Ibrahim Badran, as executive director and Abla Amawi, as Director of the Communications and Public Relations. With NHF celebrating its 10th anniversary this month, the two Ph.D.s bring diverse backgrounds and experiences into the new recipe for NHF's venture into a second decade. Dr. Badran, who received his doctorate in electrical engineering from Queen Mary College London University, was brought in from his post as advisor to the Prime Minister since 1991. At 56, Dr. Badran moved from electrical engineering and energy related fields to "peace engineering" as coordinator general of the Middle East peace process while at the Prime Ministry. His congenial nature should blend well with the work of NHF which has pursued a determined policy of improving the quality of life for the Jordanian family. Dr. Amawi holds a masters degree and Ph.D. in comparative government and political theory with specialisation in

the Middle East from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She left her post as visiting professor at Georgetown to join NHF and put her knowledge and experience to the service of her country specifically in advocating women's and children's rights, promotion of civil society's institutions, and the process of political liberalisation in the Arab World. Congratulations to Drs. Badran and Amawi on their new assignments and to Noor Al Hussein Foundation on its 10th anniversary.



A painting by Rafiq Laham

RACKING UP AWARDS: Plastic artist Rafiq Laham is in the meanwhile revelling in the satisfaction of having recently won a gold medal for his etching and printing art work at the biennial Syrian Art Festival that was held in August in the coastal town of Latakia. Mr. Laham, who is advisor to the Minister of Tourism, is a veteran and pioneer artist. He studied art in Italy and taught for the past 30 years. He has exhibited his works in many countries including the U.S., Spain, Germany, Denmark, and Britain. Rafiq Laham is no new to awards. He won Jordan's Plastic Artists Award in 1992 and was honoured by King Hussein with Al Kawab Medal.

Jennifer Hamarneh

Russian readers swept away by steamy sagas

By Angela Charlton
The Associated Press

president and his defence minister. She sells dozens of the steamy sagas daily from her makeshift bookstall inside the Kievskaya metro station.

Wearied by recent years of economic hardship, Russian readers are snubbing weightier classics and happily abandoning themselves to a world of breathless beauties and cunning casanovas.

"He grabbed her, his lips caressing her face," reads a passage from "Enchanted Sunset" by Jo Colloway, the story of a handsome stranger who sweeps into an Oregon

town and cures a heartbroken anthropologist.

The popularity of these novels, mostly Russian translations of Western titles, extends far beyond Volchkova's stall.

On a recent bestseller list compiled weekly, six of the capital's top 10 fiction paperbacks were romance novels. "Danielle Steele is becoming our new hero," Gennady Kuzminov, who compiles the lists for the Moscow weekly *Knizhnoye Obozreniye*, said of the author.

But enterprising Russian writers have tuned in to the widespread popu-

larity of these formulaic, quickly written novels too, and are diving into the realm of unbridled passions themselves.

Aficionados of these amorous adventures are quick to emphasise that the books' appeal is romance, not sex.

"If we were sex-crazed, we would buy those magazines," said romance reader Vera Krylatova, referring to the pornographic publications that line kiosks across the country.

The primly dressed Ms. Krylatova waited for a subway train immersed in "Echoes of a Past Love,"

in which she said the heroes spend the majority of the novel thousands of kilometres apart, instead of in each other's arms — or beds.

"It makes me feel good. That's why I read it," the 55-year-old chemist said.

She's not alone. Six other people stood nearby on the subway platform nearby absorbed by romance novels — including one middle-aged man.

"It's something easy to read," said the bearded man, slightly embarrassed as he quickly stashed the love story in his pocket.

Titles lining passengers' laps in the subway reflect the shifts in Russia's literary marketplace.

Under the cold care of Soviet censors, readers were "protected" from such dangerous literature as Western thrillers, pornography and detective novels. *Sobway* passengers clutched Russian classics, the Communist Party daily *Pravda* or one of the many thick Soviet literary journals.

"It's something easy to read," said the bearded man, slightly embarrassed as he quickly stashed the love story in his pocket.

brought an economic freedom many writers might now prefer to surrender.

The prose sections of Moscow's *Dom Knigi*, which means house of books, once the capital's main bookstore, are dominated by translations of Western romance and detective novels. Its philosophy department boasts rows of self-help books, and only two works by Karl Marx.

The popularity of the passion-filled pot boilers may have as much to do with the mood of the readers as the market. Too

burned out by everyday concerns arising from inflation and instability to tackle "War and Peace," many are turning to escapist romances.

"Such publications are the rumour of our society," said Timur Pusatov, chairman of the International Association of Writers' Unions, one of the successors to the prestigious Soviet writers' union.

Pusatov's biggest worry is that the Western romance-novel "disease" has infected Russia's tradition.

Queen of romance decries society of smut

By Lyndsay Griffiths
Reuter

LONDON — Dame Barbara Cartland, the world's most successful romantic novelist, remembers a time when the only thing worse than having sex was talking about it.

"It was rather like going to the lavatory. You never spoke about it. It's all so extraordinary today. People have become very vulgar," Cartland told Reuters.

The dame's preferred world is that of her youth, a sanitised land of elegant dances, ballgowns, lines of suitors in white tie and tails and plenty of good clean fun.

"It is sad, isn't it? People used to fall in love," she said. "Now sex comes into everything. In my day you never heard the word. It's revolting and nasty and very bad for the young."

"I didn't know where babies came from until I'd had five proposals of marriage. I was absolutely astonished," said Ms. Cartland, who like so many prudes talks about sex with relish.

Her books, are sex-free zones. All 621 of them. "For 20 years, I've done a book a fortnight (every two weeks). Without fail, 6,000 words a day," said the 93-year-old doyenne of

pulp romance. "Nobody else has done that."

She dictates to an army of secretaries at her suburban mansion and the formula sells in the hundreds of millions, surpassing even the sales of crime writer Agatha Christie.

"I'm doing very well in Australia and love is selling in France too. Next I'm off to America. When books go to China they take every one and remove the sex. The only books they don't interfere with are mine. Japan's going that way too," she said.

Though 38 per cent of women in Turkey read Cartland, "England says it's not a story from today's world."

"I never write about the present. I don't touch it because I don't want to

write about sex," she said. "God gives me the most wonderful plots. They're so good and so easy."

They don't, unfortunately, match real life.

In Cartland's day, young men courted young women from afar, with jewels, not condoms, in their pockets.

"I had 56 proposals of marriage and people always gave me something. Nowadays girls don't get the chance. They're lucky to get a bunch of flowers," said Ms. Cartland, who has just sold her glittering jewel collection at auction.

"Of course there's still romance in the royal family."

The 57 lots, from diamonds to paste, were a magnet for fans and col-

lectors alike. Altogether, they fetched 155,813 pounds (\$250,400) — double the 80,000 pounds (\$128,600) anticipated.

"How wonderful" she duly gushed.

Some things, at least, retain their sheen amid the squalor.

Take the royal family, a pet subject of Cartland's whose daughter Raine is stepmother to Princess Diana, the estranged wife of Britain's heir to the throne Prince Charles.

"The Italians cry because they don't have a royal family. The French would love one. And what are we doing — our very best to get rid of them," said the patriotic Dame.

Ms. Cartland said she welcomed reports that Charles and Diana had ruled out divorce for the sake of their children,

blaming some of Diana's problems on her own troubled upbringing.

"They're never quite the same, they don't have the security. She was a very sweet little girl when she married, very innocent," she said. "Let's just hope they sort it all out."

In fact the whole country should sort it all out if people want the sort of happy endings her heroines routinely enjoy.

"England says it's not interested in love anymore," said Ms. Cartland. "But it will come back. People fight and die for real love and they'll realise this sex business is the wrong track."

Techno freaks

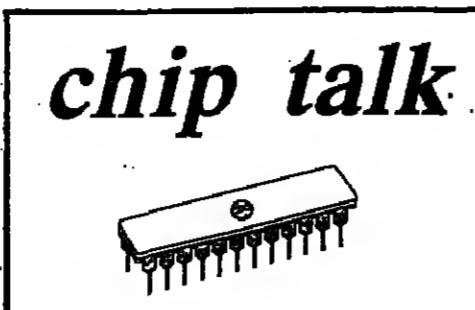
By Jean-Claude Elias

"One day everybody will be using a computer." How many times have we heard or read this brusque statement? The way personal computer (PC) aficionados put it, we should expect computers to come just after bread and water in the list of our essential needs in a decade or two.

This is obviously a gross exaggeration. Although the dramatic technical progress that PCs and software have recently made and the significant reduction in manufacturing cost have put them virtually to every office, school and most homes, there are still millions of people who do not even have the faintest idea of how to operate a PC. Some simply because they cannot afford to learn the technique, some because they do not have access to the systems and others simply because they hate the technology.

Moreover, people are discovering that while the machines can help them work better, having someone else do the job and confront the equipment makes their life easier. In other words, more and more people trust the machines and admit they need them, but prefer to let someone else operate the equipment for them. As shocking as it may sound to some, this would mean that maybe with time, less people will be using PCs themselves.

Another factor that contributes to frightening users is the lack of friendliness in operating PCs. Though computer operating systems (OS) have come a long way since the early eighties and are infinitely easier and more pleasant to use now, they are still far from being as friendly as common mortals wish them to be. I do not intend to upset Mr. Bill Gates (I wouldn't dare) but even the new Windows system can't be as friendly as in the average PC user's



dreams. However, let's be very optimistic and assume that computers have become as powerful, inexpensive and friendly as they could be, there will always be individuals that would rather keep a certain distance between them and the machines. Some of us simply are not fond of technology and can live a perfectly happy life without it. I have a friend who hates wrist watches that do anything more than just give the time of day. Even the day and date functions are unbearable to him. The mere sight of those trendy watches that have a built-in alarm, a calculator, three different time displays, an altitude indicator and heart pulse monitor makes him sick.

If many still can't (or do not want to) programme a VCR, how can we claim that every single person on Earth will use a PC some day? It is very unlikely. We may all depend on computer technology in the future — we probably depend on it now — but we do not all have to necessarily become computer operators, let alone computer experts.

JTV CHANNEL TWO WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday,
Sept. 7, 1995

1:00 Iris - The Happy Professor
1:15 Fireman Sam
1:50 My Secret Identity
2:15 N.B.A.
3:30 Take Your Pick
4:00 Dead Men's Tales
4:30 I witness Video
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan — "Pour Sauver Alona
Varieties And Game Show
Le Monde Est A Vous
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Court Metrage
Stella Plage
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 National Geographic
8:30 The Album Show
9:15 Murder She Wrote
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — In The Name Of Duty
Starring: James Brolin
12:00 Shogun
12:40 Perfect Strangers

Friday,
Sept. 8, 1995

1:00 Read A Lee Deed A Lee
1:15 Beethoven
1:30 Why Didn't I Think Of That
2:00 Key To Freedom: Women & Literacy
2:30 Movie — The Entertainers
Starring: Bob Newhart & Linda Gray
4:00 Crystal Maze
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan — "Les Enfants Du Fleuve"
5:30 Telefilm — Pas Si Grand Que Ca
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
E-M6
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 African Skies
8:00 Heartbeat
8:30 Documentary — Nomads Of The Wind
9:10 Danger Field
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — Calamity Jane
Starring: Jane Alexander & Fredrick Forster
12:00 Out On A Limb
12:30 The Powers That Be

Saturday,
Sept. 9, 1995

2:00 Back To The Future
2:30 Harry And The Hendersons
3:00 Road To Avonlea
3:45 Only In Hollywood
4:00 U.S. Tennis Open
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan — "Les Entrailles Du Gorak"
5:30 Documentary
Les Bicentenaire Du Louvre
6:00 Drama Series
Operation Open 1 Et 2
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine — Pas Pas Revue
7:30 News Headlines
First Flights
8:00 Major Dad
The Bold And The Beautiful
9:10 Women Of The World
9:35 Boogies Diner
10:00 News In English
10:25 Movie — A Place For Annie
Starring: Sissy Spacek & Marry-Louise Parker
11:50 Noble House

Sunday,
Sept. 10, 1995

2:00 The Flintstones
2:30 Joshua Jones
2:45 The Mighty Jungle
3:00 Pugwall's Summer
3:30 Time Riders
4:00 Families
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan

5:30 Telefilm
Le J.A.P.
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
Ushuaia: Le Magazine De L'Extreme
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Cinema, Cinema
8:00 Nurses
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Strathblair
10:00 News In English
10:25 Counter Strike
11:10 Return To Eden
12:30 Keeping Up Appearances

Monday,
Sept. 11, 1995

2:00 The Animals Of Farthing Wood
2:30 Hey Dad!
3:00 Survival
4:00 Families
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan
5:30 Telefilm
L'Arbre De La Discorde
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 French Varieties
7:35 News Headlines
7:35 Camp Wilder
8:00 McHale's Navy
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:10 Women Of The World
9:35 Carol And Company
10:00 News In English
10:25 The Ruth Rendell's Mysteries
Kissing The Gunner's Daughter
11:30 Movie — Original Sin
Starring: Robert Desiderio & Charlton Heston

Tuesday,
Sept. 12, 1995

2:00 Captain Planet
M.A.N.T.I.S.
3:00 Road To Avonlea
4:00 Families
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan
5:30 Magazine
Montagne
5:50 Varieties
Taratata
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
Faut Pas Reve
7:35 You Bet Your Life
8:00 Piglet Files
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Women Of The World
9:30 Pacific Station
10:00 News In English
10:25 Trade Winds
11:30 New York Undercover
12:00 Grace Under Fire
12:30 Varieties

Wednesday,
Sept. 13, 1995

2:00 Inspector Gadget
2:30 Super Champs
3:00 Tomorrow's World
3:30 Amazing Stories
4:00 Families
5:00 Children's Programme
Rahan
5:30 Detective Telefilm
Les Aventures De Nestor Durma
7:00 Le Journal
7:15 Magazine
Ushuaia, Le Magazine De L'Extreme
7:30 News Headlines
7:35 Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious Universe
8:00 Anything For A Laugh
8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
9:15 Heart Of Healing
10:00 News In English
10:25 Prism
10:40 Blue Skies
11:45 Silk Road
12:30 Varieties

Oh what a tangled web we weave

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaaen

Self proclaimed experts have been arguing that nearly half of the buildings in Amman have neither taste nor style. Normally, one cannot but agree with this assessment. But which half of buildings are we talking about?

It remains possible to argue that the residential homes of western Amman and other privileged areas in the Kingdom with their rather exaggerated and extravagant features are neither aesthetically appealing nor architecturally enriching. It would also be possible to go on further to claim that these residences are a part of what is commonly referred to as Mickey Mouse architecture — architecture put together by cartoonists.

By contrast, it can also be claimed that the residential homes in the rather less fortunate parts of Amman and other Jordanian villages and cities are somewhat interesting and exciting. One can also add that it was the down to earth designs that made even a fishing village in Bombay very interesting in terms of the aesthetics they had to offer.

It does very little justice to our urban fabric if we were to compare it with that of cities such as Chicago, or any other well-developed city because cities are normally a product of certain historical events, trade, migrations, etc... And homes, or residential types, are products of a certain period in the history of a city.

What remains is that humans have, in theory at least and by virtue of their own nature, the ability to describe, assess, and maybe criticise their environment. Yes, one could say

that a window is square and a door is rectangular. But one also could say that an upside down arch is nonsensical or whether a terrace was too small or a window too small. One does not need an education in architecture to be able to tell whether a table is too low or whether a door is too high.

Nowadays, one could certainly say more, simply because there is more folly to talk about. And this folly is not simply in architecture. One could say, for example, that pitched roofs are being taken to extremes, that huge glass windows are totally uncalled for in our hot climate, that overall form is given shape either for reasons driven by financial gains or by clumsy attempts at putting square blocks together. Garages are mere additives reminiscent of suitcases and chimneys have developed rather silly looking things at their ends.

We are certainly not building our houses so that we impress our foreign friends who come to visit. Or are we? And if so, who are we kidding? Who some Swedish friends of mine came over last summer, they certainly did not want to visit Abdou, but the refugee camps around Amman. And it made no sense to try to convince them that such environments did not exist. Eventually, they were taken to both.

Honest professionals owe it to themselves and to the people of eastern, southern and northern Amman, nine-tenths of Zarqa, Salt, Ajloun, Jerash, Mafraq and the rest of the Jordanian landscape to defend such habitats against claims that these areas lack style and character.

Each and every locality and neighbourhood, anywhere in the world, has a distinct style and its own character. And simply because the arrogance within us stirs us too often to make ill informed judgements, we should never attempt to play God. People who state that low income people only

think that a house is just a shelter are gravely mistaken. Low-income settlements around the world are some of the most colourful and free form urban products ever produced by man. It is there after all that humans do what they do with their homes because they need to and not to turn their houses into markers of social status. Others, on the other hand, only use Italian marble because it has become a marker of social status. Local materials remain always at the heart of everything. The Yemenites certainly never did import any Italian marble or any structural glazing or paneling system.

Those who claim that poor people cannot afford to decorate and beautify their houses most have their own interpretations of what beauty is. And certainly such individuals must have never been in the low-income settlements of either India, Thailand, Ghana, Turkey or Brazil.

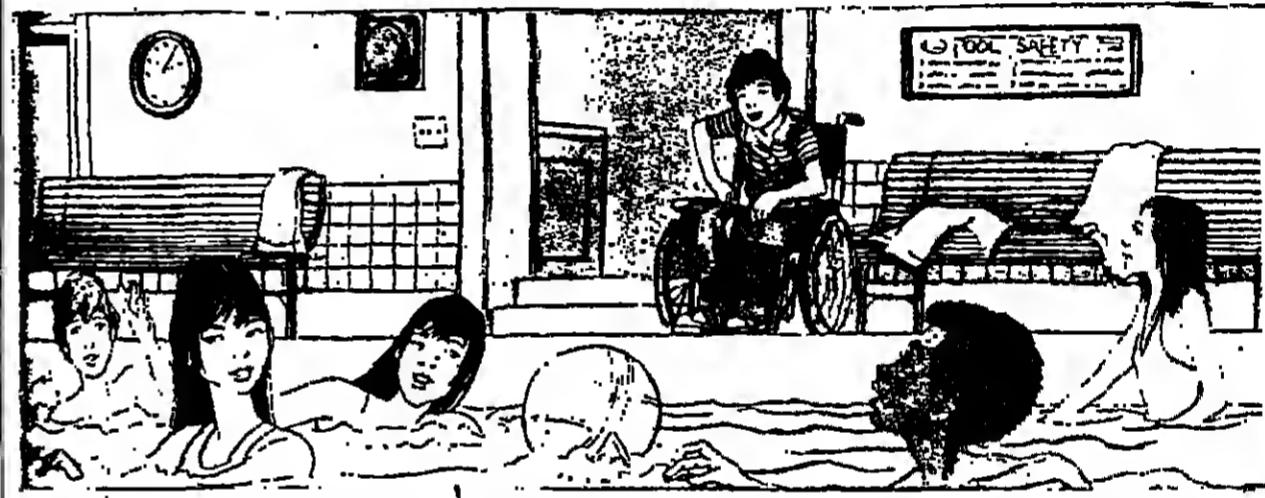
Imposed value systems are always damaging. Making demands that the houses of those among us who are less fortunate should display more rhythm, taste and style is totally uncalled for. For certainly the houses of the more well off areas can do with a great deal of taste, rhythm and appreciation of human scale and local materials.

The aesthetics of any dwelling remain related to the values of the culture in which it is placed and consequently tell so much about a society.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuaqir

TEST YOUR POWER OF OBSERVATION



Carefully look at the picture for 3 minutes, put the newspaper aside and then state whether these statements are TRUE or FALSE.

SCORE: Excellent 9-10; Good 7-8; Good 6-8; Below 5: Lacking concentration.

1. The boy sitting in the trolley is holding a stick.
2. There are six people in the picture.
3. Time shown is "ten minutes past one."

* * * * *

TIME FOR FUN

* "A smart lady is standing in your husband's way."

WIFE: "Poor lady! My husband is a train driver!"

* * * * *

* HUSBAND: "If I were Adam, I wouldn't quit Paradise."

WIFE: "Why?"

HUSBAND: "Because I dislike apples."

* * * * *

* FRIEND: "Oh, has the quarrel with your wife been settled?"

SABER: "I've compelled her to kneel."

FRIEND: "What did you do?"

SABER: "She knelt down and said:

"Come out from under the bed, you coward!"

* * * * *

* "I'm a good cook, but I'm not a good waiter."

SAFIA: "I'm a good waiter, but I'm not a good cook."

* * * * *

* "I'm a good cook, but I'm not a good waiter."

SAFIA: "I'm a good waiter, but I'm not a good cook."

* * * * *

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

— Don't ask me the impossible.

La tass'alai al-mustahid.

— Don't say a word!

La tantiq bkalima.

— Don't be hard on me.

La tag alayya.

— Take no notice of him.

La to'irah illitmanan.

— Don't worry about your mother's health.

La tushghil balak besih'hati ommek.

— I don't need advice, thank you.

La hajata lee clan'nos'h, Ashkorok.

— Don't reveal others' secrets.

La tak'shif asrar al-akhareen.

— It's a shame, isn't it? Eunahu ayb, alaysa kathafik?

* * * * *

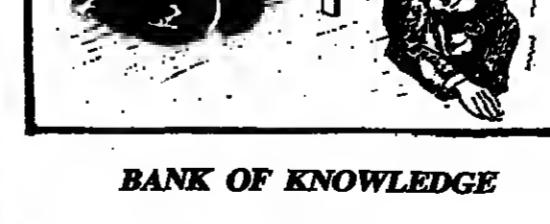
PUZZLES

PIG PUZZLE WORD FIND

By going up, down, backward, forward, or diagonal, can you find the words that have to do with pigs and pig stories?

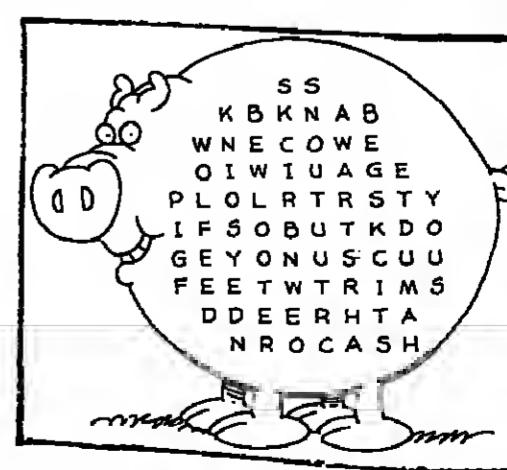
Put a loop around each one.

PIG	CORN	WOLF	THREE	BANK
SOW	FEED	BRICKS	GRUNT	MUD
WEB	WILBUR	HAM	FEET	STRAW
STY	STICKS	OINK	SNOUT	



BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. In nuclear strategy, what is "coupling?"
2. What is the "ordinateur" better known as?
3. Which city is called the Athens of the North?
4. What are dreadlocks?
5. The Long March occurred in China in the 1930s. What in China is the Second Long March?
6. Where are the Drygalsky Mountains?



Dennis Quaid battles to make peace with himself

By Ric Leyva

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Dennis Quaid is a big boy now. Faced with unhappy task of talking about himself, he is obliging, even forthcoming, although his body language betrays deeply mixed feelings.

He listens attentively and answers intelligently, but eyeing the tape recorder with distrust, he fidgets shamelessly, squirming in his seat trying to get comfortable.

Too often, he rubs his eyes, laughs nervously or coughs, hugs at his hair in frustration or manhandles his shirt collar. He doesn't seem to notice. Every now and then, he suddenly stops speaking and leans forward, elbows on knees, squeezing his cheeks between both hands and moaning slightly like he's in pain.

Revealing himself to a total stranger who will put his every thought into print isn't Quaid's idea of a good time. But he is a movie star. It comes with the job. And

he's always been a pro, so naturally he delivers.

"Just don't expect anything less than the truth."

"I don't read anything that's written about me," he says. "I won't read this either."

Ouch, that felt good. He sits still for a few self-satisfied seconds, maintaining eye contact now and grinning his grin, that winning Quaid half-smirk that melts tender hearts in movie houses.

This time, though, it means he won't go down without a fight.

"There's no way I could put myself into a nutshell, because I don't see myself from the outside," Quaid says matter-of-factly, without the slightest trace of defensiveness. "That's what these stories are, being seen from the outside from another person's point of view."

"That's fine and everything, but that's also the reason I don't read them, because I'm living in here," he says, patting his chest.

"I read one way, way, way back and I just kind of felt

like, gosh, I sounded so self-important, you know."

The boy is a man.

Forget about trying to understand Quaid's labyrinthine psyche. The versatile actor has stymied any attempt to label him during a 20-year career that includes more than 35 films, most recently *Something To Talk About* with Julia Roberts.

They haven't always been his own self-destructive romp through the '80s.

"During *Great Balls Of Fire*, I was pretty much overboard in my life," he admits.

And while he's tired of rehashing his past problems with drugs and alcohol, he's not trying to sweep anything under the rug.

"That's the old story. That way years ago, I've been sober for over five years," he says. "It's sort of a good thing to talk about though, in a way, so anybody else out there who has suffered knows that you can walk away from it."

Nowadays, Quaid, 41, gets high being a doting daddy to Jack, his son with Ryan. He even skips precious trips to the links with uncle Randy for the sake of fatherhood.

"I'd rather spend time with him," he says. "Golf will always be there, but he'll never be 3 again."

The onetime Hollywood hell-raiser is now an unapologetic family man.

"The strongest glue of society is the family," he says. "It's where we learn

everything. It's where we first learn how to eat with a fork, how to not go to the bathroom in our pants. How to say 'please.'

"People who don't learn all those basic social skills, well, later in life, we all pay for it as a society."

"After a two-year hiatus following *Postcards From The Edge* in 1990, Quaid returned to full-time movie work, making little-seen films such as *Wilder Napalm*, *Undercover Blues* and *Flesh And Bone*.

Unfortunately for him, the trend continued through *Wyatt Earp*, Kevin Costner's lackluster western epic. It was a shame because Quaid's admirable turn as ad hoc Holiday, for which the 180-pound (82-kilogramme) actor lost 45 pounds (20 kilograms), went largely unnoticed.

"I'm really proud of that one," Quaid says, his voice trailing off sheepishly.

He likes his prospects for a long happy life with Ryan, joking about how they'll endure together.

"The next Hume Cronyn

and Jessica Tandy?" he says with a laugh. "We'll have to wait and see about that. We've done three movies so far. I think we should back off a little and wait a while before we do another one, although I'd love to work with her again."

(They met on the set of *Inner Space*, and later made *D.O.A.* and *Flesh And Bone* together.)

A private pilot who learned to fly while making *The Right Stuff*, Quaid joins John Travolta in passion for jet travel.

"He and I are the only jet-rated actors," says Quaid, the new owner of a Citation jet plane. "It's a big thrill. I made it here from L.A. in five and a half hours. Going back will be against the wind though. That won't be so thrilling."

Pressed one last time to sum himself up, he's direct.

"I can't change what I like," he says. "I like what I like and I know what I know."

He paused a second before concluding. "I am happy."



Dennis Quaid

A wild reception for Jon Secada in Grease revival

By Michael Kuchwara

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — "One hot star" trumps the advertising copy for the Broadway revival of *Grease*. Judging from the audience reaction to Jon Secada's official opening night at the Eugene O'Neal Theatre, it could be right.

Screams and Squeals greeted the pop star from his first entrance and were repeated along with whistles and a loud chorus of "Yea," every time he opened his mouth to sing.

At the end of the show, the audience — which included long-time Secada supporter Gloria Estefan and her producer husband Emilio — scrambled to its feet for a cheering standing ovation. As photographers stormed the aisles to take pictures of the grinning Secada, groupies threw white carnations and streamers at the stage.

Since it opened 15 months ago, the revival of *Grease* has been a triumph of musical theatre marketing by producers Barry and Fran Weissler. The husband-and-wife producing team have tailored their stars to the show — and to an audience that probably has never seen a Broadway musical before.

Rosie O'Donnell, Brooke Shields, Joey Fisher. Not exactly a theatre hall of Fame Trio, but three distinct performers who put their mark on Rizzo, the show's bad girl with a heart of gold. They dominated the musical, and "saw plenty of tickets" during their engagements.

Now Secada reclaims the show for Danny Zuko, the 1950s duck-tailed high-school greaser who wins the heart of sweet and prim Sandy Dumbrowski. It's not exactly typecasting. While Danny is brash, Secada off-stage is almost bashful, unassuming and

unfailingly polite. "He's sooooo nice," coos Fran Weissler. "And he works so hard. He comes in early. He leaves late. I can't tell you what is going to happen months from now. All I can tell you is that he is a joy — and you know, that doesn't happen too often in this business."

Secada seems embarrassed by the fuss. A week or so before his opening, the performer sits in a Manhattan Hotel suite, dutifully doing a series of interviews for the show.

Secada is dressed in black jeans, a tight Rydell High T-shirt and black leather jacket sporting the name of the musical. His hair is in a fashionable short cut, nothing like the carefully slicked wig he wears in the show.

"I was anxious — it was a learning experience from day one," Secada says. The singer played several weeks out-of-town, appearing with the road company of

the show in preparation for joining the Broadway cast. "I treated each performance as a lesson," he says. "Of course, you always screw up. But it's good for me. I'm very critical of myself. And what a way to start. This is Broadway."

Secada comes to Broadway with virtually no theatre experience, but plenty of stage savvy. He knows how to work an audience. On opening night, he swaggered, sang falsetto and rolled his eyes, making sure theatregoers got every one of the musical's mildly raunchy but good-natured jokes. The audience loved every minute of it.

"Jon has an incredible amount of sex appeal — it's just there," says Jeff Calhoun, the director of *Grease*. "I've never worked with anyone who has the musical instincts he has. They are spectacular."

"Take his singing of 'Alone At The Drive-In Movie.' His performance of

it is as good as any musical performance I have seen in the theatre. And when would you say that when you are talking about *Grease*?" Calhoun says with a laugh.

Yet Secada realises and appreciates that concerts and theatre are worlds apart.

"Different timing, different atmosphere," he explains. "That's what I've been trying to learn every single night. Learn the essence of timing, the acting and the dancing. And how to do it eight times a week."

So why take on Broadway? Coming off a world tour, the Cuban-born Secada says he was ready for a new challenge and new audiences beyond his traditional Latin and pop fans. It's an extension of an effort started several years ago by his friend, model Ingrid Casares, who put him in Armani suits and

other designer duds to mainstream his appeal.

Secada was noticed first on stage in a bid way five years ago, when Gloria Estefan offered him a job touring with her show. He had worked for her as a songwriter and backup singer. His first album sold 10 million copies worldwide, producing the hit singles *Just Another Day and Angel*; a second, *Heart, Soul And A Voice*, more tinged with rhythm and blues, was released last year.

Secada immigrated with his family to South Florida in 1971, at the age of nine. His parents ran a restaurant in Hialeah, Florida, where he grew up. Secada was teaching music at Miami-Dade Community College when he was hired by Estefan's husband, Emilio. He's been in the music business ever since.

"You don't get bored if you don't stop working," Secada says.

Secada wrote about half the songs on the new recording, the others were by "other Latin writers who are very well respected in the industry."

With his nights booked, Secada says he will work during the day on a new English-language recording, although his main responsibility will be to the musical.

For all his considerable star power, Secada doesn't overwhelm this production of *Grease*. He knows he is part of a team, an ensemble of actors.

"You have to get used to working with people," he says. "You have to make yourself fit in, like a glove."

Only at the end of the show, after the curtain calls and the cheering, does Secada step forward to give the audience a little extra something. He croons an uptempo version of the old Elvis Presley anthem *Love Me Tender*, and they go wild.

Indonesian cinema at a nadir

By Linawati Sidarto

Agence France Presse

JAKARTA — Indonesia's failure to clinch any awards at an international film festival it recently hosted mirrors the country's moribund film industry, which is facing stiff competition from American, Indian and Hong Kong imports.

A Taiwanese movie won the top honour at the Asian Pacific Film Festival held here last week, while the host was left to mediate on the reason it

failed to get any of the 12 prizes up for grabs.

The failure was further

exacerbated by the fact that Indonesia has not been able to hold its annual Indonesian Film Festival in the last two years, citing both the low quantity and quality of its products.

"The Indonesian people have progressed, while its film industry has been at a standstill for a long time," the chairman of the Jakarta Art Council, Salim Said, told AFP.

In 1993, only two dozen

movies were produced, compared to 120 in 1990, and 1994 did not see much improvement.

Very few of the recent Indonesian films went beyond cheap eroticism, slapstick humour and bloody violence. Titles such as *Night Lust* and *Tainted Bed* were immensely popular in rural areas, where the majority of Indonesians live.

Mr. Said pegs the early 1990s as the time when the Indonesian movie industry began its downhill slide. That's when the American

Film Exporters Association started to aggressively market its products with the backing of Washington, which threatened satellite dishes.

"Don't hope to revive the industry through traditional methods, which are through the market. We can't compete with imports," said Said, adding that the government had given cinema very little attention.

To rejuvenate the industry, the government should finance quality movie productions and enter them in international

festivals, where they could be picked up by cinemas overseas and thus make money, according to Said.

Said cited young director Garin Nugroho's film *Letter To An Angel*, which this year won awards at festivals in Berlin and Taormina, Italy.

Nugroho has also com-

plained about the poor state of the Indonesian film industry, saying the approach toward film has been "mistaken and narrow," and "proactive policies" was needed to tackle the crisis.

But competition from foreign sources isn't the only reason for the slide.

"Our human resources haven't developed, so we're unable to make quality movies," said Said, who was also six-time juror at the Indonesian Film Festival.

He pointed out that Indonesia never had any professional film schools and movie directors generally have to work their way up through apprenticeships.

Distribution disputes

are also cited as hurting the domestic film industry.

In 1991, cinema owners halted the screening of noted producer Eros Jarot's highly acclaimed *My Sky, My Home* after only one day, citing extremely small audiences.

Industry observers, however, said the film was pulled because of disagreements between the producer and noted businessman Sudikatmo-no, President Suharto's cousin who controls Indonesian movie distribution.

Film-maker mapped path to top like an army general

By Tim Farrand

Reuter

LONDON — The rise to fame of controversial young American film-maker Quentin Tarantino is a tale of a movie buff who has swapped his seat in the dark for the lights of the big screen with alarming speed.

Only one director has generated so much fuss on such a limited output and that was Orson Welles.

Still in his early 30s, Tarantino has only directed *Reservoir Dogs* and *Pulp Fiction*, for which he won an Oscar this year for best screen-play.

He has also written

True Romance and *Natural Born Killers*, which portray America's underworld class of gangsters and crooks with the same unnerving mix of violence and comedy.

But in a biography entitled *Quentin Tarantino, Shooting From The Hip*, author Wensley Clarkson says no one should be surprised by the meteoric climb. He sees Tarantino as a man on a mission who put enormous time and effort into movies.

"If you ask me how I feel about violence in real life, well, I have a lot of feelings about it," Tarantino himself said at a recent news conference.

"It's one of the worst aspects of America. In movies, violence is cool. I like it."

Tarantino grew up on a diet of hamburgers and hot dogs, just as all the male characters in *Pulp Fiction* eat junk food. He became obsessed with tough-guy G.I. Joe dolls and would stage vicious hand-to-hand combat scenes all over the house.

His mother, who cooperated with Clarkson on the book, named him after a rugged film cowboy called Quint Asper, played by Burt Reynolds, who featured in a western called *Gunslinger*.

acting school in California he took a job as a head hunter and could afford to buy a video player, enabling him to devour even more movies.

Realising the only way to learn how to make films was by watching them, Tarantino went to work as a clerk at a specialist video store.

Tarantino was almost incapable of doing ordinary paperwork. "But he could out-talk anyone when it came to describing the camera angles in all Sergio Leone's films," Clarkson writes.

A turning point came when he spent a harrowing eight days in jail in Los Angeles for unpaid parking fines.

Clarkson also quotes Roger Avary, a friend who worked with Tarantino in the same video store but clashed with him over the credit for writing parts of *Pulp Fiction*.

"Quentin knows everything about pop culture. But his greatest strength is his greatest weakness. He is only interested in pop culture."

"The one problem people have with Quentin's work is that it speaks of other movies, instead of life. The big trick is to live a life and then make movies about that life," Avary said.

7 FEATURES

Greenpeace uses airwaves to make waves in Mururoa

By Mike Corder

Associated Press

Amsterdam, Netherlands - The environmental superpower Greenpeace is using video clips and sound bites to wage war against French plans to test a nuclear bomb in the South Pacific.

Megaton media exposure has become the key weapon in the arsenal of the Amsterdam-based group that in recent months has taken on France, China and Royal Dutch Shell.

In televised coverage last week, a French naval helicopter was filmed as it blocked a Greenpeace chopper's attempts to get into the 20-kilometre exclusion zone France has thrown around its Mururoa Atoll test site. Like every navy, greenpeace has a flagship, the M.V. Greenpeace, which arrived off the Atoll this week to spar for the cameras with a pair of French navy frigates. French navy commandos on Friday stormed the ship, as well as its sister ship Rainbow Warrior II, and set off with them to a French military base hundreds of miles away. Greenpeace's publicity seeking tactics secured it victory over Royal Dutch Shell, the oil multinational forced to abandon plans to dump its Brent Spar oil platform at sea.

But critics argue that Greenpeace forced Shell out of one bad decision and into another by insisting on having the platform dismantled on land where workers would be endangered by the poisons left on board. Television producers too have attacked Greenpeace's manipulation of the media during the Brent Spar campaign. In an interview at Greenpeace's internation-

sion forum, David Lloyd, senior commissioning editor for news at Britain's Channel 4, said that Greenpeace video releases provided to the media had spun the story so far in the environmentalists' favour.

The pictures provided to US showed plucky helicopters riding into a fusillade of water canons. Try and write the analytical science into

Greenpeace has photographers and cameramen aboard all its ships, and the modern satellite technology to beam the images back to the group's media centre in London, where they are fed to news organisations.

that."

Richard Sambrook, the news editor for news and current affairs of BBC television, agreed that greenpeace's expensive media operation had won the day.

"This particular David is not armed with a shotgun so much as an AK-47," he said. The M.V. Greenpeace and Rainbow Warrior II are loaded to the gunwales with sophisticated communications equipment, ensuring that the world sees greenpeace's publicity seeking tactics secured it victory over Royal Dutch Shell, the oil multinational forced to abandon plans to dump its Brent Spar oil platform at sea.

Greenpeace has photographers and cameramen aboard all its ships, and the modern satellite technology to "beam the images back to the group's media centre in London, where they are fed to news organisations.

In an interview at Greenpeace's internation-

testers were arrested in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, the most politically sensitive spot in China.

Chinese police hadn't even finished interrogating the Greenpeace activists before T.V. viewers around the world saw video footage of their arrests.

Today, Greenpeace is a far cry from the folksy knot of activists who started with a 1971 voyage in the North Pacific to protest U.S. nuclear testing.

Now there are national offices in 30 countries, and a total budget this year of \$140.1 million for high-profile campaigns.

Mr. Bode envisions more splashy crusades in the future:

"We must have campaigns that reach the heart and imagination of the public," he said.

At an Edinburgh televi-

tion forum, David Lloyd, senior commissioning editor for news at Britain's Channel 4, said that Greenpeace video releases provided to the media had spun the story so far in the environmentalists' favour.

The pictures provided to US showed plucky helicopters riding into a fusillade of water canons. Try and write the analytical science into

ai headquarters on Amsterdam's historic Kaiser's Canal, the organisation's international executive director Thilo Bode, said: "Mururoa is fantastic because that is a real conflict. You see the sailing boats and the French war ships."

The group gave the world a taste of its skills earlier this month when Greenpeace anti-nuclear pro-

testers were arrested in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, the most politically sensitive spot in China.

Chinese police hadn't even finished interrogating the Greenpeace activists before T.V. viewers around the world saw video footage of their arrests.

Today, Greenpeace is a far cry from the folksy knot of activists who started with a 1971 voyage in the North Pacific to protest U.S. nuclear testing.

The seeds of hatred between the majority Hutu and minority Tutsi tribes took root during colonial rule.

Independence from Belgium in 1962 released suppressed tribal rivalries which erupted into waves of violence that finally exploded into genocide last year.

The Hutu — darker-skinned, stocky farmers — lived in the region first. They were conquered about 400 years ago by the tall, cattle-keeping Tutsi, who came from the north and set up feudal kingdoms in both Rwanda and neighbouring Burundi.

The Tutsi, numbering 15

per cent of the population, ruled the Hutus as serfs before German colonials arrived in 1899.

German explorer Count von Goetzen described the Tutsi as impressive "with their gigantic stature, the sublimity of their speech, the tasteful and unobtrusive way of their dress, their noble traits and their quiet, penetrating, often even witty and irritating eyes."

Colonial rulers reinforced the existing social system after the kingdom was taken over by Germany and later turned over to Belgium as a protectorate after World War I.

Mr. Habyarimana increased tensions by creating a sense of Hutu solidarity and bringing regional rivalries into Rwanda's politics.

At the same time he rejected suggestions that the Tutsi refugees should return to their homeland, saying Rwanda, the most densely populated country in Africa with about seven million people, had no room for them.

More tribal skirmishes erupted in 1963 and again in 1972.

More than 250,000 Tutsis fled to neighbouring Burundi, where the Tutsis retained control, and 300,000, to Uganda.

In July 1973, Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu and then defence minister, toppled Rwanda's long-serving Hutu president Gregoire Kayibanda in a coup.

Mr. Habyarimana was assassinated on April 6, 1994, when his plane was shot out of the sky over the capital Kigali, killing

all on board — including the president of Burundi, Cyprien Ntaryamira.

Who shot down the plane remains unclear but U.N. officials suspect Mr. Habyarimana's hardline presidential guard was behind it.

The Hutus blamed the RPF rebels for the assassination

— and the slaughter of Tutsi civilians began within an hour of the crash. Moderate members of the Hutu government were among the first to be killed.

In two months, up to a million ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed in a frenzy.

Up to two million Tutsi refugees fled their homeland to neighbouring Zaire, Burundi and Tanzania after RPF rebels defeated the former Rwandan government army.

The RPF consolidated its hold on power and in July 1994 installed a new government with moderate Hutu politicians.

A cabinet reshuffle at the end of August 1995 kept the ethnic and political composition of the government, whose credibility depends on its ability to lure the refugees home.

Nuclear test sparks protests

(Continued from page 1) seized two Greenpeace ships and intercepted rubber rafts and divers who approached the atolls.

France has set off 205 nuclear blasts in the South Pacific and in Algeria since 1960, when then-President Charles de Gaulle brought the country into the atomic age.

The leader of the opposition Social Democrats, Rudolf Schärping, condemned both the French test and the continuation of Chinese tests and called on other German parties to respond with a common position to clearly tell Chirac: "We do not want this series of tests — break them off immediately."

New Zealand and Chile recalled their ambassadors from France and the tiny Pacific island of Nauru suspended diplomatic relations with Paris, calling the blast a "blatant example of French arrogance."

South Africa condemned the test with Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo saying Pretoria reaffirmed its "solidarity with the states in the South Pacific and will continue to support their strong opposition to the resumption of the French tests in their region."

Earlier the governments of Austria, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland slammed France for ignoring international protests and

the political divide joined the

"until all regions have the same educational levels."

Former Prime Minister Taher Masri proposed an interim compromise. He said that quotas should be eliminated except for the very remote regions where educational standards are very low.

Centrist Deputy Anwar Hadid proposed an increase in the number of students per class at state-run universities to more than 200 instead of the average of 50 at present. He also proposed that the universities launch evening programmes and introduce correspondence courses.

According to centrist Fawaz Zou'bi, more than 70 per cent of the university halls and classes are vacant after 1:00 p.m.

The House is expected to continue discussions on the issue on Sunday.

Chairperson of the House's Freedoms Committee Mahmoud Huweimel defended the quota system and said quotas are necessary

to end the siege of Sarajevo, and U.N. officials speculated the lack of response could be a sign of disarray in the Bosnian Serb leadership.

"We have plenty of targets, we have plenty of work left to do," Adm. Smith told a news conference in Naples, Italy.

Bosnian Serb police sources in Pale, just southeast of Sarajevo, confirmed the targets hit Wednesday were installations near military headquarters in Han Pijesak, 50 kilometres northeast of Sarajevo, and in Kalinovik, 40 kilometres south of Sarajevo.

Bosnian Serb military commander General Ratko Mladić, whose refusal to ease his grip on Sarajevo led to the

accusation against Syria is unfair," he said, following talks with Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam here.

Mr. Talabani said he would meet Iraqi opposition members based in Damascus as well as Syrian officials during his visit to "exchange ideas on the situation in Iraq and the Middle East."

He added he had not decided whether to accept an invitation to meet Iraq's former industry minister General Hussein Kamel, who defected to Amman on Aug. 8.

Mr. Karadzic, speaking on



A DECADES LONG CONFLICT: Rwandan refugees in Zair

Seeds of ethnic hatred go back years in Rwanda

By Elif Kaban

Reuter

Kigali - Rwanda, homeland of hundreds of thousands of refugees who are resisting a United Nations repatriation plan, straddles what must be Africa's most gory ethnic faultline.

The seeds of hatred between the majority Hutu and minority Tutsi tribes took root during colonial rule.

Independence from Belgium in 1962 released suppressed tribal rivalries which erupted into waves of violence that finally exploded into genocide last year.

The Hutu — darker-skinned, stocky farmers — lived in the region first. They were conquered about 400 years ago by the tall, cattle-keeping Tutsi, who came from the north and set up feudal kingdoms in both Rwanda and neighbouring Burundi.

The Tutsi, with lighter skin and aquiline features, were favoured by the Belgians in education and as agents governing the majority Hutu population.

In 1959, the Hutu rebelled, the Tutsi monarchy was overthrown and hundreds of thousands of Tutsis fled into

exile.

More tribal skirmishes erupted in 1963 and again in 1972.

More than 250,000 Tutsis fled to neighbouring Burundi, where the Tutsis retained control, and 300,000, to Uganda.

In July 1973, Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu and then defence minister, toppled Rwanda's long-serving Hutu president Gregoire Kayibanda in a coup.

In 1990, rebels of the Tutsi-dominated Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) invaded northern Rwanda from neighbouring Uganda.

The invasion achieved great success, prompting Mr. Habyarimana to speed up political reforms to legalise opposition parties.

In 1993, a peace treaty was signed by Mr. Habyarimana and RPF leader Alexis Kanayengwe in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha to share power in Rwanda.

Mr. Habyarimana was assassinated on April 6, 1994, when his plane was shot out of the sky over the capital Kigali, killing

all on board — including the president of Burundi, Cyprien Ntaryamira.

Who shot down the plane remains unclear but U.N. officials suspect Mr. Habyarimana's hardline presidential guard was behind it.

The Hutus blamed the RPF rebels for the assassination

— and the slaughter of Tutsi civilians began within an hour of the crash. Moderate members of the Hutu government were among the first to be killed.

In two months, up to a million ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed in a frenzy.

Up to two million Tutsi refugees fled their homeland to neighbouring Zaire, Burundi and Tanzania after RPF rebels defeated the former Rwandan government army.

The RPF consolidated its hold on power and in July 1994 installed a new government with moderate Hutu politicians.

A cabinet reshuffle at the end of August 1995 kept the ethnic and political composition of the government, whose credibility depends on its ability to lure the refugees home.

Indian killing shakes government image

Indian killing shakes government image

By Paul Iredale

Reuter

NEW DELHI - The assassination of Punjab's chief minister has shaken the image of peace and stability that Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao was preparing as a major plank of his election campaign, analysts said this week.

The bomb blast that killed chief minister Beant Singh and 15 members of his retinue will also have an impact on Mr. Rao's plans to bold pols in the troubled state of Jammu and Kashmir in the run-up to the general election, they said.

It is doubtful whether, after the assassination of Beant Singh on Thursday, the exponents of the 'electoral theory' will be able to argue their point with as much conviction as they did before," the Economic Times said on Sunday.

Contacts were also underway with the European consortium Airbus for the delivery of 10 A310 carriers if the U.N. air embargo is lifted, he added.

He said Gen. Kamel may have given these figures to boost his own self-importance.

Four U.S. Navy warships are due on a port visit in Dubai on Thursday before carrying out operations in the Gulf, the U.S. embassy said.

U.S. New Orleans, Juneau, Comstock and Mount Vernon are part of an amphibious ready group which has completed a 10-day exercise with the Jordanian army, the Abu Dhabi based embassy said in a statement.

There may be a certain disarray among the Bosnian Serbs and that is why orders coming from one end are not being followed through the other end," he said.

On Monday, a senior aide to Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic basically accepted the U.N. demands, but hours later Gen. Mladić rejected them.

One Bosnian Serb source close to the Pale leadership reported late Tuesday that a serious split had arisen between Gen. Mladić on one side and Mr. Karadzic and Serbian President Slobodan Milošević on the other. That could signal a shift in the Serb power structure, since Gen. Mladić recently had been allied with the powerful Serbian president against Mr. Karadzic.

Mr. Karadzic, speaking on Cable News Network, denied there was a split between himself and Gen. Mladić.

"Everything goes very well, all of my personal orders are carried out," he said. "Even personal relationships with Gen. Mladić have improved."

Several residents of the town blamed the Turkish Kurd separatist PKK, which since late August has launched attacks on the KDP in areas on the border with Turkey.

"They are being serviced, but not those in Iran, he added, without giving a reason.

U.S. invites

(Continued from page 1)

accusation against Syria is unfair," he said, following talks with Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam here.

Mr. Talabani said he would meet Iraqi opposition members based in Damascus as well as Syrian officials during his visit to "exchange ideas on the situation in Iraq and the Middle East."

He added he had not decided whether to accept an invitation to meet Iraq's former industry minister General Hussein Kamel, who defected to Amman on Aug. 8.

The PKK said the bomb, made up of 15 kilograms of TNT, exploded outside one of its offices in the centre of Erbil.

8 Economy

Poor say social time bomb ticks in Beirut slums

BEIRUT (R) — In Beirut slums awash with sewage, poor people say a social time bomb is ticking as living conditions worsen despite the costly reconstruction drive following Lebanon's civil war.

Price rises and increased taxes are creating growing bitterness among the poor, who hoped billionaire Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri would bring prosperity when he launched his ambitious reconstruction programme in 1992.

"Life is very hard now because of the high cost of living. My monthly salary of 300,000 liras (\$185) is not enough for a child," said Hassan Hussein, a father of 10 who sells lottery tickets. "Prices should come down or half the people will starve."

"If the situation remains like this, I think the people will act," said Fatima, a 23-year-old schoolteacher, in the rundown Wadi Abu Jamil district near the war-shattered heart of Beirut.

Their remarks were echoed by other poor families interviewed by Reuters who say that July tax increases, including a 38 per cent rise in the price of petrol, are breaking their backs and must be scrapped.

Urging unions to press on with protest strikes and demonstrations began in July, some slum dwellers said they would defy an official ban and join peaceful street protests.

Many political and religious figures say they fear social upheaval if Mr. Hariri does not change his economic policy.

They say the construction tycoon has forgotten the poor in his drive to rebuild Lebanon from the 1975-90 civil war and social tensions are mounting.

Reconstruction projects are visible all over Lebanon, stretching government resources to the limit, but that does not save the government from criticism.

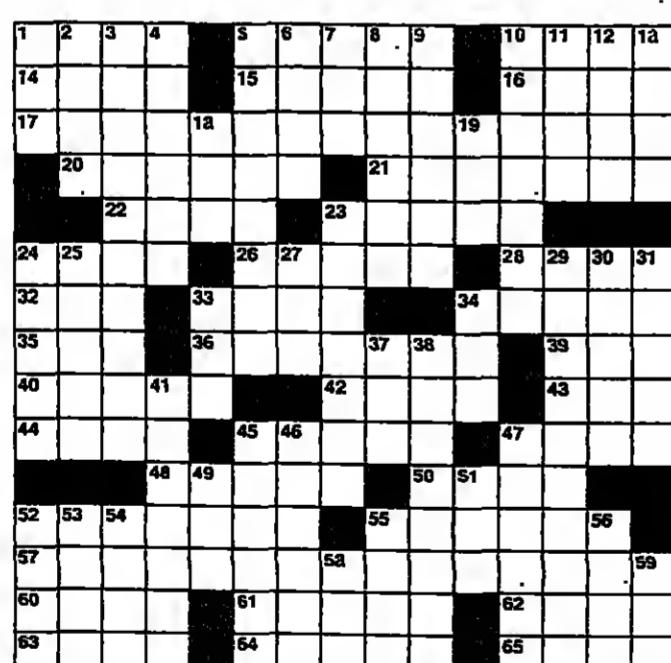
"It is indecent to talk of progress in the reconstruction programme when the situation on the social front is deteriorating," parliament Speaker Nabih Berri said in August.

"We cannot give an image of prosperity when the Lebanese are living in misery," he told political and religious leaders.

THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten

ACROSS

- 1 Tennis great
- 5 Impediment
- 10 Nora's dog
- 14 Surfet
- 15 City on the Missouri
- 16 "old cowhand..."
- 17 Tim Allen TV sitcom
- 20 Debutantes
- 21 Prostheses
- 22 Average grades
- 23 Hint
- 24 Plunder
- 26 Golf bag items
- 28 Oiler, e.g.
- 32 Shade tree
- 33 Air pref.
- 34 In unison
- 35 Yale student
- 36 Awards
- 39 Deface
- 40 Fruil coverings
- 42 Break
- 43 B.P.O.E. member
- 44 Utah state flower
- 45 Belt location
- 47 Liquid measures: abbr.
- 48 Dock hoist
- 50 River in Spain
- 52 In an unsteady way
- 55 Flea'
- 57 Mitc: j.m. Peppard litm
- 60 "a song..."
- 61 Wed
- 62 Short note
- 63 Disorder
- 64 Car type
- 65 Quickie, abbr.



© 1995 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

DOWN

- 1 Ger. exclamation
- 2 Boorish person
- 3 Gable/Tuner film
- 4 Grommel
- 5 Plot of land
- 6 Rascals
- 7 Sailor
- 31 — up
- 33 Not here: abbr.
- 34 Viper
- 37 Switch positions
- 38 American cool
- 41 Agendas
- 45 Marine mammal
- 46 No matter who
- 47 Type of bull
- 48 Discharge from the military
- 49 Engineer's deg.
- 51 Thin wedge
- 53 Pit
- 54 Iowa college town
- 55 boy!
- 56 mater
- 58 Central
- 59 Cul off

'Poverty banks' aid poor women around the world

BELING (AFP) — The New York-based "Women's World Banking" (WWB) is a financial institution with a difference: It makes loans to the poorest women in the world, and it came to the fourth U.N. conference on women here to publicise their plight.

"If someone shows up at my door asking for one (Lebanese) lira in taxes I will kill him," Hussein Mowannes, an unemployed musician and 35-year-old father of three, said at his smoke-blackened, bullet-damaged flat.

Mr. Mowannes, who earned 300,000 liras (\$185) a month when he worked, said he would join street protests by trade unions whose attempts to march in July were foiled by police and troops.

Mr. Mowannes stopped work as a taxi driver because he could not cover petrol costs after the price rose in July. He could not remember the last time his family had eaten meat, which has recently soared to 12,000 liras (\$7.40) per kilogramme from \$8.00. Other families had the same complaint.

"Our main diet is now eggs, cheese and olives... I am one of those people who need the government to stand by me. This is not a life we live, it is a life of humiliation," Mr. Mowannes said.

"Living conditions during the war were better, at least one could afford to eat well. For 1,000 liras (62 cents) you could buy two packs of cigarettes. Now that is not enough for one," he pointed out.

A study presented by the government to the U.N. World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in March said 7.5 per cent of Lebanese families live on \$300 a month — the lower poverty line for a family of five, covering food only.

It said 82 per cent of families lived on \$600 a month — the upper poverty line covering food, education, housing, clothing, transportation and health care for a family of five.

The government is living off heavy budget deficits but Mr. Hariri said in August the economy and finances were in good shape and claims to the contrary were bad for the country.

"We won't just be saving our socialism. We'll have a perfected socialism," President Castro told the parlia-

ment.

The WWB was created during the first U.N. conference on women in Mexico in 1976. Its funding comes from the governments of Canada, the Netherlands, Norway and the United States as well as from banks, U.S. foundations and corporations.

It works in tandem with similar non-profit enterprises around the world, including the celebrated Grameen Bank of Bangladesh, which has aided millions of families in that country and now concentrates its aid to women, saying they are the best agents for change.

Such "poverty banks" aid some 10 million people around the world, Ms. Barry said. Thirty-two of them are grouped in an International Coalition on Women and Credit and are bese to advance their programmes. They hope to work with the non-

governmental organisations which are meeting here in tandem with the U.N. conference, as well as with international organisations and the World Bank.

They say their aid has provided dramatic results: In the Dominican Republic, for example, job creation in the "micro-enterprise" sector is 20 times higher than in other sectors. In the United States, these small enterprises are creating more jobs than the 500 largest U.S. firms.

The "poverty banks" say 95 per cent of their loans are paid back, indicating the reliability of their clients, and the failure rate of enterprises which receive aid is lower than those aided by traditional bank loans.

But the banks don't come close to meeting the needs of "micro-entrepreneurs," many of whom are women supporting families. Less than two per cent of these businesses worldwide have access to financial services. The Grameen Bank, often cited as a model of its kind, provides only 0.1 per cent of credit allocated nationwide.

Russia cuts tariffs, hits out of Gazprom

MOSCOW (R) — Russia has cut its tariffs on key exports but promised to swell state coffers by increasing the financial burden on natural gas giant Gazprom.

A government official said President Boris Yeltsin signed a decree backing a government decree to lower export tariffs by an average 30 per cent on goods from metals to machinery. The new rates, which have not been made public, took effect immediately.

The decree gives Russia's powerful fuel and energy ministry 10 days to prepare suggestions on lower tariffs on oil and gas exports — levies which bring in billions of dollars and help keep the spark of Russian reform alive.

First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoly Chubais told reporters after a new conference that the measures were taken "to stop our exports declining significantly."

But the financial impact of the cuts were offset by a Chubais announcement that monopoly Gazprom, one of Russia's cash cows, would be hit with higher excise duties on gas extraction.

Gazprom is the world's

largest — and some say richest — natural gas producer.

"I would say 99.9 per cent of this story is a Gazprom story," said one Western economist. But he doubted that Mr. Chubais could carry the political clout to see Gazprom tax hikes through.

"It's never over here until it's over," he said.

Mr. Chubais said the government had raised Gazprom's excise duties to 35 per cent from 25 per cent.

He also said a controversial Gazprom stabilisation fund — a Soviet-era leftover which allows the firm to hold hard currency export revenues tax-free — would have to pay taxes.

The economist said cancelling the fund's tax breaks could pump a whopping \$2 billion into budget coffers each year.

But he expressed doubt about the government's ability to take on Gazprom, one of Russia's most powerful companies.

Gazprom denies financial wrongdoing, but some analysts say the firm pays only about 50 per cent of the excise duties it should and only 70 per cent of the profits taxes it owes.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1995
By Thomas S. Pierson,
Astrologer, Carroll Righter
Astrological Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You are anxious to get ahead much faster later today, and tonight you can start taking right steps in such direction.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18) This is a good day to make a plan of action by which you can gain the personal wishes which mean so much to you.

GEMINI: (May 19 to June 21) Get in touch with good pals and gain their support for whatever your aims may be. Then be alone and push your talents through.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You have excellent ideas for gaining much progress and for becoming successful in public life. Get in touch with bigwigs.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Plan some trip which can help to motivate you to greater accomplishment when you return, then tonight get into town and have fun.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Try to understand the other side of your mate's nature and gain greater happiness. Seek new interests tonights.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 20) You can make new suggestions to associates which, coupled with their ideas, can bring greater success.

SCORPIO: (October 21 to November 18) Use all those gadgets around you that can make tasks more efficient and easy. Get together partners this evening.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 19 to December 21) Plan to get into entertainments which you have not enjoyed before this, and then you can have a fine time.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) You understand what should be completed to make your home more attractive and functional, so get busy.

AQUARIUS: (January 20 to February 18) Any data you have attained recently which can make more property-conscious and prosperous should now be put to use.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 20) Study your monetary status today and do whatever will make it better since you have fine ideas.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1995
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A financial affair can be nicely settled early today, but later tonight take care not to get fooled or deceived.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18) Take treatments which will make you more charming this morning, and then go after some personal aim which means much to you.

GEMINI: (May 19 to June 21) Some special thought for one you like can bring happiness this morning. Later today get your dues handled intelligently.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Early work on some personal aim and gain it easily. Later today you may have difficulty with other goals.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get your duties handled as early as you can since later you duties to perform which are a little difficult.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Early get into that new interest which is inspiring to you and make much progress before you have to handle some bluniti matter.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 21) Handling a business affair early and wisely is easy this morning, but later today practical affairs are annoying to you.

SCORPIO: (October 21 to November 18) Coming to an agreement with a partner early is wise, so don't delay doing so any longer, and save a worthwhile association.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 19 to December 21) Begin your tasks enthusiastically, and get much accomplished since later today your motor runs down and you can do little.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) Early this morning plan entertainment for later in the day since later tonight you may have a problem to contend with.

AQUARIUS: (January 20 to February 18) Handle that family affair early and quickly otherwise it could get worse later today. Get kin to understand your views.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 20) You get a message this morning, that could be very pleasant for you, but later today you find it difficult to communicate with others.

Birthstone of September:
Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli

Cuba passes new foreign investment law

HAVANA (R) — Cuba's national assembly Tuesday approved a new foreign investment law which the government said was intended to strengthen the island's socialist economic development, without leading to Western-style capitalism.

The law, passed unanimously by the assembly after a day and a half of debate, allows wholly foreign owned ventures in Cuba and investment in Cuban real estate and free trade and export manufacturing zones, all novelties in communist-ruled Cuba.

It also sets out guarantees for foreign investors and approval procedures that permit Cuba's government to carefully consider each investment proposal on a case-by-case basis.

Cuban President Fidel Castro, who participated extensively in the assembly debate, said the new investment law was part of an ongoing process of economic reforms whose intention was to improve the country's socialist system, not destroy it.

"Nothing is going to get out of hand. If we have to introduce more reforms, then we will, if we have to open up more, then we will, although I don't see any immediate need for that. What I do see is a need to consolidate and perfect what we're doing," he said.

As an example of what be intended to avoid, the Cuban

leader indicated the example of Cuba's former Soviet Bloc allies in eastern Europe where he said the introduction of "perestroika" had ended up by destroying socialism there.

The new legislation, which is aimed at boosting the flow of foreign capital into Cuba's recession-bit economy.

Foreigners will, however, be specifically able to invest in business run by Cuban armed forces, which, for example, already run a major tourist corporation.

After a heated debate on the issue, the assembly decided that Cubans living abroad should be allowed to invest in their country of origin, and this right is enshrined in the law.

Despite pressure from foreign businessmen to be allowed to directly and freely hire Cuban workers, the new legislation basically maintains

an existing practice of using Cuban intermediary companies to employ local workers for foreign investment ventures.

While the law allowed for exceptions, President Castro and other senior officials argued that this formula would best protect Cuban workers from the "anarchy, disorganisation and privileges" of direct hiring by foreigners.

Mr. Castro told the assembly the government had been concerned to balance the need for the country to obtain more capital, technology and markets from abroad with a concern to maintain as much

national control as possible over the country's wealth.

He warned the deputies not to expect the new law to immediately bring a "universal shower of convertible hard currency," not least because Cuba was still the target of a continuing U.S. economic embargo.

During the debate, the assembly heard that since the first foreign investment in Cuba, in tourism, in 1982, 212 ventures involving foreign capital had been created up until the end of July. The government puts the accumulated total of direct foreign investment in Cuba to date at just over \$2 billion.

JUMBLE
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GREBA

© 1995 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All Rights Reserved.

YIRAH

© 1995 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All Rights Reserved.

PECGIT



Judge orders bank to pay compensation to client for poor advice

LONDON (AFP) — British banks were reeling Wednesday after a landmark court action ruled that Lloyds Bank must pay compensation to a couple for giving them negligent financial advice.

Julia Ventry, 55, and her partner, Richard Spindler, 36, were awarded £77,529 (about \$120,000) compensation for imprudent advice from their bank manager at Lloyds.

The case centres on the couple's purchase of a house in 1988 for which they borrowed £150,000 (\$232,000). They intended to renovate the Victorian house before selling it at a profit.

But their dream ended in nightmare and the collapse of the housing market threw the couple into bankruptcy. Instead of the £160,000 they expected from the resale one year later, the couple received only £135,000 and had crippling interest repayments.

A spokesman for Lloyds said: "In this instance the judge decided that our branch manager went further and encouraged the plaintiffs to proceed with their project."

Despite their unexpected court victory, the couple are still close to financial ruin, as the bank demands crippling interest repayments.

Even if the couple have won compensation for the negligent financial advice, they have received nothing for the personal strains endured.

Inja Verity said: "There is a big age difference between us — we hadn't intended to stay together — Richard should be out there looking for a young wife. Because of this case we had to stay together and go on to the end."

Consumer groups immediately called on other victims of alleged negligent advice to press claims and take them to court if need be.

The national coordinator of the Bank Action Group, Pat Griffiths, said: "This de-

cision is good news for bank action groups. Banks can be held liable when people lose their homes or businesses."

Financials fear that the ruling may harm small businesses as banks review lending policy in the future and become more prudent. Officials at Lloyds Bank, Britain's fourth biggest bank in credit terms, say they will probably be forced to review their relationship with potential clients.

But British banks insist that the court ruling does not challenge case law, which sets out the key role of banks in offering prudent financial advice while leaving final decisions to the clients themselves.

A spokesman for Lloyds said: "In this instance the judge decided that our branch manager went further and encouraged the plaintiffs to proceed with their project."

Experts hold that the refinery at Milazzo had too much capacity for the needs of Agip, and last year its output was restricted.

Egypt's image deters U.S. investors — envoy

CAIRO (R) — U.S. companies remain hesitant to invest in Egypt because of the poor image they have of the investment climate in the country, U.S. Ambassador Edward Walker told a meeting of businessmen.

Mr. Walker compared Egypt unfavourably with

in part and U.S. companies have successfully invested more than \$1 billion in Egypt, creating 250,000 jobs, he told the American Chamber of Commerce in a speech delivered Tuesday and made available Wednesday.

Mr. Walker compared

other sites for investment, such as Israel, Indonesia, Tunisia, Chile and the United Arab Emirates, and cited horror stories about investors thwarted by bureaucracy and legal problems.

One unnamed company has spent two years trying to invest \$10 million in a new factory but a single division of one ministry has held the project up, apparently because it prefers to buy the same goods abroad from a longstanding supplier, he

said.

One franchiser finds it takes an average of 56 days to clear its imports, compared with less than a week in Israel or Abu Dhabi, he added.

"The cost of these delays is forcing the company to scale back its plans," he said.

"Conflicting regulations, contradictory standards, unpredictable commercial courts... and that's once you've got your foot in the door" he said.

"Small wonder that... there are many American companies over the horizon waiting for the situation to clarify," he added.

On the positive side, many businesses are doing well and the government says it is committed to change, he said.

Mr. Walker was speaking in advance of his trip this month to meet U.S. businessmen in five U.S. cities and present business opportunities in Egypt to them.

Economist: Jordan has no choice but to join WTO

★★ ECONOMIST AND former minister Bassam Al Saket told a group of intellectuals that Jordan has no choice but to join the World Trade Organisation (WTO). "By not joining we would be subjected to huge restrictions and our products will also be subjected to customs tariffs if exported to any of the 130 countries which are members of the WTO," Dr. Saket said. He added that since WTO members would be benefiting from preferential treatment between them, "we will be finding ourselves deserted if we do not join." "The market itself will force us into membership," he stressed, noting that "we will find the world a big club open to its members and closed to all others."

Dr. Saket said that joining the WTO is a step bigger than the peace agreement, and "if we are not careful its risks are extremely large but, on the other side, it is extremely beneficial if we know how to deal with the issue."

"The question as such is how to go about the WTO, where does our interests lie and what are the best ways to achieve them," he said emphasising that our preparations are not up to the required level.

The former minister of agriculture, industry and trade indicated that prices will be rising in the first stage as a result of joining the WTO, but there will also be advantages from opening up to the huge international market. He outlined to his audience the basic WTO rules which include:

Freeing trade and lowering customs, abolishing subsidies and treatment of foreign investors on an equal footing with the local investors (Al Ra'i).

★★ THE CABINET approved recommendations on allocating land on the eastern shore of the Dead Sea on the basis of leasing to the highest bidder. Minimum bidding was set at JD 1,500 per dunum annually for a period of 30 years renewable for a similar period on new contract and charge. The Cabinet also approved setting up four additional 4-star or 5-star hotels in the area according to the choice of the investors and the studies they have presented, with the possibility to look into setting up hotels and tourist villages from time to time (Al Ra'i).

★★ ALADDIN INDUSTRIES Company (AIC) boosted sales by 26 per cent to reach a record JD 43.5 million last year and, according to the company's 14th annual report, posted a JD 603,400 net profit. However, AIC was forced to set aside JD 150,000 of the profit to cover the value of cheques, that were given to the company by "burnt market" traders and were returned by banks. Of the remaining amount, the company will be distributing JD 100,000 in dividends as the shareholders approved distributing dividends at a rate of 10 per cent at a general assembly meeting held this week. AIC Chairman Anis Muasher told the general assembly that the company would distribute half a share free for each share held by the shareholder once a 15 per cent government tax on capitalisation of reserves is abolished. He also told the general assembly that AIC was negotiating with Japan's Sanyo Corporation and that the talks have reached final stages. The talks aim at allowing AIC to manufacture (assemble) Sanyo products in Jordan hopefully before the end of this year. Mr. Muasher said he hopes that an agreement will also be reached to build a large Sanyo production centre in the Kingdom (Al Aswag).

★★★ JUDGE ORDERS BANK TO PAY COMPENSATION TO CLIENT FOR POOR ADVICE

★★★ ECONOMIST AND FORMER MINISTER BASSAM AL SAKET TELLS INTELLECTUALS THAT JORDAN HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO JOIN THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION (WTO)

★★★ ALADDIN INDUSTRIES COMPANY (AIC) BOOSTED SALES BY 26 PER CENT TO REACH A RECORD JD 43.5 MILLION LAST YEAR AND POSTED A JD 603,400 NET PROFIT

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS ON ALLOCATING LAND ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF THE DEAD SEA ON THE BASIS OF LEASING TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED SETTING UP FOUR ADDITIONAL 4-STAR OR 5-STAR HOTELS IN THE AREA ACCORDING TO THE CHOICE OF THE INVESTORS AND THE STUDIES THEY HAVE PRESENTED

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A RATE OF 10 PER CENT AT A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD THIS WEEK

★★★ JORDAN'S CABINET APPROVED DISTRIBUTING DIVIDENDS AT A

Muster, Stich fall; Sabatini sweeps into semis

NEW YORK (R) — A pair of seeded men with formidable Grand Slam credentials were upset at the U.S. Open Tuesday by an American whose best days seemed to be behind him and a Zimbabwean avocado farmer's son having his best day.

Former world number one Jim Courier, who has been struggling and out of the top 10 for nearly two years, overpowered third-seeded French Open champion Thomas Muster 6-3, 6-0, 7-6 in a slugfest contested primarily from well behind the baseline.

"On good days, I'm much better than my ranking reflects," said the 15th-ranked Courier, a former two-time Australian and French Open champion.

Earlier, 70th-ranked Zimbabwean Byron Black withstood a furious comeback by eighth-seeded German Michael Stich to claim a quarter-final berth with a

shocking 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 2-6, 6-3 victory.

Stich, the 1991 Wimbledon champion and last year's U.S. Open runner-up, had high hopes of making it back to the final this year.

Black, a native of Harare, Zimbabwe who learned to play barefoot on grass, has never won a singles title and had never been past the third round at a Grand Slam event.

"I think Harare is going to be pumped up, the parents are going to be pumped up at home," said the delighted Black, who next faces two-time Open champion Pete Sampras.

Second seed Sampras overwhelmed unseeded Amy Fraizer 6-2, 6-3, and ninth seed Sabatini romped to a 6-1, 6-3 victory over 14th-seeded Mary Joe Fernandez, who had stunned defending champion Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in the previous round.

Sabatini, the 1990 Open champion from Argentina, has not dropped a set in five wins here and will have to continue at that level to snap a seven-match losing skid against three-time Open champion Graf. The German leads their pro rivalry, 28-11.

The Muster-Courier match-up had held the promise of an exciting contest, a U.S. Open that has suffered from a dearth of drama in men's competition thus far.

But Courier seemed to have more sting in his powerful groundstrokes and had the Austrian on his heels early.

From 5-3 in the first set, Courier went on a tear, feeling off seven games in a row to take a quick two-set lead. "I just wasn't in the match the first two sets at all," said Muster, winner of 10 titles this year on clay. "I put everything in the first three matches and there was nothing left today."

Muster stopped the bleeding by holding serve to open the third set and played Courier close thereafter. But



Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina celebrates her victory over Mary Joe Fernandez to reach the U.S. Open semifinal (AFP photo)

the confident Courier was not about to let this one slip away, even after the set went to a tie-break.

"I feel pretty good going out against Thomas on any surface. It's power versus power," said Courier, who is now 4-0 against Muster in Grand Slam meetings.

In an all-American quarter-final Courier will take on the always dangerous Michael Chang.

The fifth-seeded Chang opened the day's play with a 6-2, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 win over 119th-ranked Australian Michael Tebbutt.

Stich appeared to have turned the tide after dropping the first two sets and it seemed like a matter of time before Black would collapse under the pressure.

"I got off to a really bad start, but from the third set on, I think I was in charge of

the match," said the German serve and volleyer, who made 118 forays to the net, winning 77 of them.

But a couple of mistakes in the sixth game of the final set cost Stich dearly as Black broke for a 4-3 lead, then held his serve to go 5-2 up.

"I was too confident," admitted Stich. "I came to the net, had the volley on my racket, just didn't make it. You know, that is tennis."

Still, Black, who also upset ninth seed Thomas Enqvist in the second round, showed he had the mental toughness to close it out after Stich held for 5-3 and saved one match point in the final game.

"I should have won the match today and I gave it away in the fifth set," lamented the eighth seed.

"I think it was a very even match, but unfortunately I am not in the next round."

Christie wins, then rules out Atlanta

RIETI, Italy (AP) — British sprinter Linford Christie says he's made his mark and is unlikely to participate in the 1996 summer Olympics in Atlanta.

Christie, the 1992 Olympic champion and 1993 world champion at 100 metres, pulled away over the final 20 metres to capture the 100 metre dash Tuesday at the Rieti track and field meet.

Afterward, he told Italian Rai state television not to expect a defence of that Olympic title next year.

"I probably will not be competing in Atlanta. I think I'll be there," he said. "I took some sweet revenge after the World Championships. I have nothing to show at 35, except that athletics can be fun."

Christie's bid to defend his title at the recent World Championships in Gothenburg, Sweden, was ended by a hamstring injury.

He clocked 10.20 seconds Tuesday under a steady downpour that forced cancellation of the men's pole vault and slowed times.

Australian Damien Marsh was second in 10.27.

World champion Michael Johnson was among those turning in impressive performances despite the conditions, winning the 200 in 20.09, the year's third-best time.

"It's a fast track and I could have clocked a faster time, but the weather was too bad," said the American, who won the 200 and 400 at Gothenborg to complete an historic double.

Kenya's Moses Kiptanu won the men's 2-mile run, Algeria's Nouredine Morceli captured the 3,000 metres and Sonia O'Sullivan of Ireland won the women's mile, but all fell short in attempts to break world records in those events.

Morceli was four seconds under record pace at 1,500 metres, but slowed to a finishing time of 3:29.36 minutes, 4.35 seconds off his own mark.

Kiptaouirao 8:13.40, allowing Ethiopia's Haille Gebrselassie to retain his record of 8:07.46, while O'Sullivan used a strong final kick to overcome Jananita's Yvonne Graham over the final 40 metres to clock 4:29.82, well off Romanian Paula Ivan's record of 4:15.61, which has stood since 1989.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Redondo prefers hair to soccer

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Real Madrid midfielder Fernando Redondo said Tuesday he had spurned an international call-up for Argentina because he refused to sacrifice his long blonde hair. Argentine coach Daniel Passarella, a strict disciplinarian, met with Redondo in Madrid and said only the star's shoulder-length hair was barring him from a comeback in upcoming friendlies against Spain and Colombia. "When we got to the subject of hair, I told him I wouldn't cut it because it is part of my personality," Redondo said in an interview with a local radio station. "I am a person and a player — but in that order." Passarella said last year he would ignore any player with long hair as it often impeded vision. Fiorentina striker Gabriel Batistuta immediately cut off his locks, as did other hopefuls in the Argentine league. Redondo and striker Claudio Caniggia, who both refused to conform, were left out in the cold.

Le Jingyi returns with a win

BEIJING (AFP) — China's world champion Le Jingyi bounced back with a convincing win in the national swimming championships from which China's team for the short course world championships in Rio de Janeiro in Nov. 30-Dec. 3 will be selected. Le took Tuesday's 100m final in Chengdu in 56.04sec., two seconds slower than her world record, but still impressive after her long absence from competitive swimming. The Shanghai teenager won four titles at last year's world championships in Rome. But she was a flop at the Asian Games in Hiroshima, making a false start in one final, and has not been seen while the swimming squad gets over its various drug scandals. Seven swimmers, including world champions Yang Ahma and Lu Bin, failed drug tests in Hiroshima. Zhou Ming, coach to Yang and Le, was among those sanctioned later.

Cantona given death threat

LONDON (AFP) — Manchester United star Eric Cantona and his manager Alex Ferguson have been issued with a death threat which police are treating seriously. The threat came from a man claiming to be a Leeds United fan who said a group of the club's fans would be carrying weapons when Leeds play Manchester United at Elland Road on December 24. And in a call to Football Monthly magazine editor Tony Flood he warned: "If me and my mates can get to Cantona or Ferguson we'll kill the bastards. "We will give them hell when they come here. This is a serious threat. We're all carrying weapons and know how to use them."

Goteborg punish crowd misbehaviour

NYON, Switzerland (AP) — Swedish soccer champion IFK Goteborg has been ordered to play its next European game 200 kilometres away from home after fans hit a linesman with coins, UEFA announced Tuesday. Soccer's European governing body also banned one player, Veselin Popovic of Yugoslavia's FC Obilic, for spitting at a referee and another, Russia's Alexandre Rychkov, for two years for violently pushing an official. The punishment against Goteborg comes after the Swedish team was knocked out of the Champions Cup by Poland's Legia Warsaw at its Ullevi Stadium August 23. Coins rained down onto the field and one of them hit a linesman, UEFA said. The club also was 11,000 Swiss francs (\$9,167) over the behaviour of the team during the 3-1 defeat.

Graham decides against appeal

LONDON (AP) — Former Arsenal manager George Graham Tuesday said he was determined to return to soccer within a year after deciding not to appeal against his 12-month worldwide ban from the game. The English Football Association banned Graham earlier this year after an inquiry found him guilty of taking kickbacks from negotiating player transfers. Soccer's world body FIFA then extended the ban internationally. Graham said in a statement that he had three main reasons for deciding against an appeal. "I do not have a bottomless pocket to meet the costs of an appeal," the statement said. "Secondly I feel in my heart I would not get a fair hearing and lastly I want to get on with the rest of my life and put this episode behind me."

NFL says rules violated in Nike-Cowboys deal

NEW YORK (R) — The National Football League said on Tuesday the sponsorship deal between the Dallas Cowboys and Nike, Inc. is in violation of league rules regarding sharing of revenues.

A statement released by the league said commission Paul Tagliabue will grant the Cowboys a hearing at an unspecified date. The statement also chided the Cowboys and Nike for the way the deal was announced at Monday night's game.

Cowboy's owner Jerry Jones and Nike chairman Philip Knight announced a seven-year sponsorship agreement that, among other things, will have all Cowboys players and coaches wearing Nike products even though Nike does not have a full agreement with NFL properties, the marketing division of the league which must license all agreements.

"The Cowboy's introduction of the new commercial sponsorship agreement involving Nike and Cowboy's personnel on the sidelines during Monday night's game presents apparent violations of league policies," the statement said. "No date has been set for the hearing, although the statement said Tagliabue would 'promptly do so.' The deal makes Nike an official sponsor of Texas Stadium and gives the sports footwear and clothing giant the rights to use the Texas Stadium logo in connection with the sale of Nike products.

Jones and Knight also announced a joint venture to design, build and operate a state-of-the-art theme park to be located at Texas Stadium. The theme park will be devoted entirely to football.

Jones and Knight were on

the sidelines at Giants Stadium Monday night and the news of the deal drew attention

away from the game,

which featured a halftime ceremony retiring the number

II of former New York

Giants quarterback Phil Simms.

"Most fans who called our office today complained

about the contrived manner

in which this business deal

was announced and promoted

on the opening Monday night regular season

telecast," the statement said.

This is the second time that Jones has

gone against the traditional

NFL practice of sharing ma-

jor revenue sources such as television rights and merchandise.

Tagliabue already has criticised Jones' plan for a 10-year, \$40 million deal that Jones signed with Pepsi-Cola. Tagliabue said the exclusive arrangement violated the spirit of a league contract with Coca-Cola for exclusive marketing and promotional rights.

Knight said his company still is interested in striking a deal with the NFL.

"We have had discussions over the past five years with NFL properties, but have been unable to reach an agreement," Knight said.

"This agreement with the Dallas Cowboys allows us the opportunity to pursue our desire to be associated with the most popular football teams in America, while we continue our efforts to work with NFL properties in an official capacity."

The signing could have an impact on the ability of the Cowboys to sign free agent defensive back Deion Sanders, who is already under contract to Nike. It also could have major ramifications on possible free agent signings of other players who already have individual deals with Nike.

Dont Miss The

Rock Concert at Royal Cultural Center

14 * 9 * 1995

Call 8238444 MR. NADER



Ripken matches Gehrig's 2,130 game streak

Midfielder Fer...ed an intermission to sacrifice...l Passarella, a...d said him from a...ain and Col...r, I told him I...ersonality...ide station, "I...er." Passarella...a long hair as it...brief. But he was...hopefuls in the...udio Carrington,...in the cold.

tion Le Jingyi...the national...t's team for the...de Janeiro in...Tuesday's 110m...lower than her...r long absence...r teenager won...s in Rome. But...him, making the...scandals. Seven...Aithua and Lu...Ming, coach to...ed later.

Eric Cantona...n issued with a...usly. The threat...United fan who...rying weapons...Eland Road on...nly magazine...n get tards. "We will...is a serious...ow how to use...haviour

occer champion...next European...after four hit...uesday. Soccer...player, Alessio...three years, for...star's Alexandre...ding, an official...the Swedish...Cup by Poland's...ngist 11. Com...n hit a home run...frame. "It's...the 3-1 defeat

manager...nged to return to...ppel against his...ne. "The English...in the year after...ckbacks from...ld. It's the FIFA...italians said in a...ons for deciding...ndless pocket to...it said. Secondly...ring and lastly...I put this episode

g...antes such as...rights and me...ue already ha...Jones' plan for a...\$45 million deal...signed with...Tugabous said...ive arrangement...the spirit of a...nt at such a...exclusive market...romotional rights...and his company...creased in striking...ith the NFL...we had discussions...ve five years with...parties, but have...able to reach an...t," Knight said....Gehrige, the "Iron horse" — saw his...treak end at age 35. Ripken's age today, only...because he was suffering the effects of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a devastating disease...of the central nervous system now known as "Lou Gehrig's Disease."

In an age of greedy celebrity sports stars, Ripken appears a model player deserving of being linked with the revered Gehrige. He is a...self-effacing, soft-spoken community leader

BALTIMORE (R) — Baltimore Orioles star Cal Ripken equalled one of the most revered feats in American sports on Tuesday, playing in his 2,130th consecutive game to match the once-thought untouchable record of Lou Gehrig.

To thunderous cheers of a sell-out crowd at Camden Yards, the greying, 35-year-old shortstop became baseball's new iron man and a national hero by showing up to work as he has for every game in the last 13 years, since May 30, 1982.

And Ripken did more than just show up, getting three hits in five at-bats — sixth-inning home run and two singles, one of them a hustling infield hit — as the Orioles shut out the California Angels 8-0.

The whole Orioles team contributed to the big night, totalling six home runs — including four in the second to tie a club record — as winning pitcher Scott Erickson gave up only three hits.

It was a prelude to Wednesday night when Ripken is due to get his all-time playing record.

In on-field ceremonies after the game, Ripken teasingly told the fans: "I don't know how everyone else feels, but I'm exhausted. I was even considering taking a couple of weeks off."

But after the crowd groaned, Ripken said with a smile: "You know I'll be here tomorrow."

The quiet Ripken received an ear-splitting, standing ovation when the game became official in the middle of the fifth inning, with even the opposing Angels joining the applause for his moment of glory.

As he always does, Ripken came to the job early, more than two hours game time, to take the warmup exercises that have helped keep him in excellent shape for his gruelling endurance record.

Former Orioles manager Earl Weaver, who threw out the ceremonial first ball to Ripken and who was his manager when the streak started in 1982 said "it's just something fantastic, something that I don't think any generation will ever see again — a man playing 2,130 straight games."

Gehrige's record had stood for 56 years since he last played on April 30, 1939. He started his string in 1925.

Gehrige — the "Iron horse" — saw his streak end at age 35. Ripken's age today, only because he was suffering the effects of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a devastating disease of the central nervous system now known as "Lou Gehrig's Disease."

In an age of greedy celebrity sports stars, Ripken appears a model player deserving of being linked with the revered Gehrige. He is a...self-effacing, soft-spoken community leader

Jalabert takes lead in tour of Spain

ALTO DEL NARANCO, Spain (AP) — Laurent Jalabert of France, riding for the Spanish team Once, won the third stage and took the overall lead Tuesday in the Tour of Spain cycling race, finishing the 206-km (128-mile) course in 5 hours, 2 minutes and 39 seconds.

Jalabert crossed the finish line alone, followed 10 seconds later by second-place finisher Spaniard Abraham Olano, riding for Mapei-GB. Once team member Alex Zulle of Switzerland, also clocked 10 seconds behind, placed third.

At that same period, the other Major League teams have used more than 500 shortstops, one of the most demanding and exhausting of baseball's fielding positions.

Both Gehrig and Ripken said they kept playing merely because they loved to play. In the hype accompanying Ripken, comparisons have been made between the two iron men of German ancestry.

But while Gehrig was a son of a dirt-poor

German-born washerwoman and a sheetmetal worker, Ripken was born into baseball. A local Maryland boy, he is the son of Cal Ripken Sr., who spent 36 years in Orioles

system as a Minor League manager and big

league coach and manager until fired in 1992.

Gehrige made at most \$39,000 a year by some accounts. Ripken is said to make nearly \$7 million a year.

Ripken plays down any comparison to Gehrig.

"I'm aware I'm a pretty good ball player," he said in a television interview, adding,

however, that "it's unfair to compare me to Gehrig because Gehrig is one of the great players who ever played and I'm not."

Major League Results

American League

Boston	7	Oakland	4 (in 14)
Seattle	6	New York	5
Baltimore	8	California	0
Kansas City	9	Toronto	8 (in 10)
Cleveland	7	Milwaukee	3
Detroit	6	Minnesota	4
Chicago	2	Texas	1 (in 11)

National League

Atlanta	1	St. Louis	0
Houston	10	Cincinnati	1
Los Angeles	2	Philadelphia	1
New York	4	San Diego	0
San Francisco	9	Montreal	6



Jockeys Frankie Dettori (left) and Willie Carson get to grips with the country's smallest and largest breeds, a Shire horse called Brookfield (AFP photo)

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNIA HIRSCH
GLOBE THEATRE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

SHOW AND TELL

East-West vulnerable. South deals:

NORTH
♦K7222
♦J
♦A
♦108332
♦A2

WEST
♦Q10
♦A7442
♦A6
♦A543

EAST
+5
+Q923
+K94
+Q1022

SOUTH
♦A3924
♦A105
♦K97

The bidding:
ROUTE WEST NORTH EAST
1a Pass 44 Pass
Pass

Opening lead: A ♦

In some ways good defense at the bridge table is like being back in grade school. The secret to winning could be as simple as "Show and Tell."

North's hand is a classic raise to four spades—five trumps, a singleton and not strong enough to open the bidding. South had nothing further to add.

West elected to lead the eights of hearts at trick one, and East contributed the three. Afraid that a club loser was going to go away on the king of hearts, West shifted to that suit. Declarer won in hand, drew trumps and conceded two diamond tricks to land the game.

East missed a chance to direct the defense. Since there was no way the defenders could get a trick in clubs even if West had the king, East should have raised the opportunity to set the singleton heart on the table to steer West to the winning line.

Under the ace of hearts East should have jettisoned the queen asking for the higher of the remaining side suits. Similarly, a low heart should ask for the low trump and a middle trump shows no preference. West would have shifted to ace of diamonds and another, and, after winning the king of diamonds, a third round of the suit would have promoted the setting trick in trumps whether declarer ruffed high or low.

Note that the only opportunity for this suit preference arises when dummy has a singleton in the suit led. At any other time, a high card in the suit partner leads simply says, "I like your suit." A low card is discouraging.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES NEEDED

The following qualifications are required:

- Excellent command of the English language.
- Computer proficiency - all applications.
- Innovative, productive, efficient, discreet & ethical - professional.
- A university degree in Business Administration is a plus.

Interested and qualified candidates are requested to send their CV to:

Fax: 685934 or P.O.Box: 7245
Attention: General Manager.

McCall threatens to quit boxing

LONDON (R) — Ex-world heavyweight champion Oliver McCall has threatened to quit boxing in a dope testing row.

The American denied on Wednesday he had failed to take the necessary tests after his title fight with Briton Frank Bruno last week and said he would retire if a ban was not lifted.

On Tuesday, the World Boxing Council announced from their headquarters in Mexico City they had provisionally suspended McCall, saying he had refused to submit to obligatory anti-doping tests.

But McCall told Sky Television on Wednesday he had given a urine sample and had witnesses to prove it.

"I think they have got the wrong information," he added.

He also told BBC radio: "If they suspend me (permanently), I am officially retired. I've made enough money. I'm a rich man and I don't need this."

The WBC complained on Tuesday of "a serious lack of discipline" and said they were looking into the matter. The British Boxing Board of Control is also investigating.

McCall lost a unanimous 12-round decision to Bruno in front of a delirious crowd at Wembley on Saturday. It was the 33-year-old's first championship victory after three unsuccessful attempts.

McCall, who was at one time a sparring partner for the former undisputed world champion Mike Tyson, initially won the title from Briton Lennox Lewis last October.

France struggling; Romania almost qualify

LONDON (AP) — There's the Channel Tunnel to help the people of France get to England. But the French soccer team is finding it tough getting across for next year's European Championships.

Yet coach Aimé Jacquet, unable to call on suspended Eric Cantona and injured Jean-Pierre Papin, has relegated his team's most talented forward, David Ginola, to the bench.

Seemingly certain to get to the World Cup, the French lost their last two home games to Israel and Bulgaria and were eliminated. It's a scenario that could happen again because their current form is far from impressive.

Alonso, second overall, trails Jalabert by 8 seconds.

Mondays leader, Gianluca Pianigonda of Italy, riding for Polti, fell 17 seconds behind to fourth place in the overall standings. Also 17 seconds behind, in third place, is Swiss Once rider Alex Zulle.

Jalabert, a strong all-terrain rider, and other racers had a rainy, mountainous course along Spain's northern coast starting in Santander.

The stretch included third- and second-ranked mountain passes before ending with a class 1 climb up to Alto del Naranco.

The 3,750-km (2,325-mile), 21-stage race continues with a 164-km (101-mile) leg from Tapia de Casariego to La Coruna.

In their last game, a 1-1 tie

at home to Poland Aug. 16, the French squandered many goal chances. They now need a high-scoring victory over Azerbaijan, which is last of the six teams in the standings.

Yet coach Aimé Jacquet, unable to call on suspended Eric Cantona and injured Jean-Pierre Papin, has relegated his team's most talented forward, David Ginola, to the bench.

Spain will clinch a place from Group Two if it wins at Cyprus and second place Denmark, the defending champion, tummles in Belgium.

Key forward Martin Dahlin, who has suffered from injuries to both achilles tendons, will play with the help of painkilling injections.

The Swiss, who know that a tie will guarantee at least second place, won't have star forward Stephane Chapuisat

European Championship Analysis

Ginola, who has made an impressive start for Newcastle, which tops the English standings, is replaced by Reynald Pedros.

The France-Azerbaijan game, played amid tight security after a series of terrorist bombings in Paris, is one of 21 qualifying games in the eight groups. Each group winner will advance, along with the best seven runners-up. That's why France is under so much pressure.

With Romania virtually assured of qualifying as Group One leader, the French go into the game in Auxerre against Azerbaijan knowing that anything less than a victory could lose them second place.

A tough trip to Romania follows and then comes a final game the French fans may dread. At home to Israel to La Coruna.

Should France lose to Azerbaijan, Romania, which goes to Poland without stars such as Gheorghe Hagi, Ilie Dumitrescu and Florin Radu, could be virtually sure to qualify, although Denmark could still finish top.

Sweden, which placed third in the

Group Three standings, have lost third of their six games, including 4-2 to the Swiss last October. They also go into the game in Göteborg with

out three experienced play-

ers, goalkeeper Thomas Ravelli, defender Roland Nilsson and forward Anders Limpar, all injured.

Key forward Martin Dahlin, who has suffered from injuries to both achilles tendons, will play with the help of painkilling injections.

The Swiss, who know that a tie will guarantee at least second place, won't have star forward Stephane Chapuisat

because of a long-term knee injury.

The surprise qualifier from this group could be second place Turkey, winner of three of its five games and hoping for a fourth at home to Hungary in Istanbul.

"I wish we could play this game right now," head coach Fatih Terim said two days before his team meets the Hungarians. "We feel like a bomb ready to explode."

Croatia, which is idle Wednesday, is favoured to qualify from Group four but still has second place Italy to play at home.

We Stretch your Dinar "just a little bit longer" on our savings accounts and time deposits

B.B.M.E. offers competitive interest rates on Jordanian Dinar Savings Accounts and Time Deposits.

How good? Just look at the table below so you can

Stretch your Dinar just a little longer.

JOD TIME DEPOSIT RATES

AMOUNT	CALL /24H	1 WEEK	1 MONTH	3 MONTH	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS

<tbl_r cells="7" ix="1" maxcspan="1"

Iraq reaches out to neighbours

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq, striving to break loose from its political and economic isolation, is asking its neighbours help it fight crippling U.N. trade sanctions.

The government in Baghdad has made calls for normalisation of ties with former enemies — Syria and Iran — and has also asked Turkey to boost existing trade relations.

The overtures come as its three neighbours prepare a meeting of foreign ministers in Iran due on Friday to discuss Iraq. Officials holding preparatory meetings talked of their "deep concern" over threats to Iraq's territorial integrity.

Iraq's Foreign Minister Mohammad Sahaf surprised analysts and diplomats in Baghdad on Tuesday by praising President Hafez Al-Assad of Syria for what he

termed his "balanced and positive" remarks on the defection to Jordan of Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel.

Mr. Assad was quoted as saying the defection of President Saddam Hussein's son-in-law to Jordan last month was not as important as media reports had suggested.

Gen. Kamel, the brains behind Iraq's military industries, has called for the overthrow of the Baghdad government.

Mr. Sahaf's statement front-paged Baghdad newspapers on Tuesday and was repeated several times by the country's state radio and television.

"That was the first positive reaction from Baghdad towards Assad since 1979," said an Arab diplomat. "Maybe the Iraqis think the

solution to their problem lies in drastic changes in the political alliances in the region."

For the third day running, the official press urged Iran to reconsider what it termed its hostile attitude towards Iraq "for the service of the Muslim peoples of the two countries."

Iraq is also seeking to improve ties with Turkey. The vice-chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council Izzat Ibrahim, in remarks published on Wednesday, stressed "Iraq's desire to develop relations with our neighbour Turkey in a manner that will serve the interests of the two Muslim

countries."

Iraq's ties with its neighbours are a highly complex web of interests, some of them conflicting with others.

Syria, Iran and Turkey routinely affirm their commitment to Iraq's territorial sovereignty and opposition to any foreign intervention in its internal affairs.

But they all host Iraqi opposition leaders too.

Syria and Iraq, both adherents of Baathist ideology, have long been locked in the bitter struggle of two splinter groups claiming to be the true heirs of the same revolutionary movement.

Shiite Iran has been historically linked to coreligionists in Iraq, where the key Shiite shrines of Najaf and Kerbala are located.

And Turkey has made two large-scale-military incursions into northern Iraq this year to chase down Turkish Kurd rebels.

Moscow denied Wednesday that Iraq had ordered 4,000 Russian tanks as claimed by General Kamel.

"There has been no such official request from Iraq," a spokesman for the state-run Rosvozvuzenie company in charge of military exports said.

"To me, this figure seems enormous," Valeri Pogrebensky said.

Gen. Kamel told U.N. disarmament chief Rolf Ekeus that Baghdad had ordered 4,000 modern tanks from Moscow, a Western diplomat in Amman said Tuesday.

Under the deal agreed a few months ago, the tanks would be delivered over

sessions into northern Iraq this year to chase down Turkish Kurd rebels.

Moscow denied Wednesday that Iraq had ordered 4,000 Russian tanks as claimed by General Kamel.

"There has been no such official request from Iraq," a spokesman for the state-run Rosvozvuzenie company in charge of military exports said.

"To me, this figure seems enormous," Valeri Pogrebensky said.

Gen. Kamel told U.N. disarmament chief Rolf Ekeus that Baghdad had ordered 4,000 modern tanks from Moscow, a Western diplomat in Amman said Tuesday.

Under the deal agreed a few months ago, the tanks would be delivered over

(Continued on page 7)

Afghans raze Pakistani embassy in Kabul

KABUL (R) — At least 5,000 Afghan demonstrators attacked the Pakistani embassy in Kabul on Wednesday in protest at Islamabad's alleged support for the Islamic Taliban militia.

Witnesses said the Pakistani embassy was ablaze in four places and smoke was also seen rising from the adjacent British embassy compound, though it was not under direct attack.

It was not clear if several unidentified people lying near the embassy gate were dead or wounded.

One Pakistani embassy staffer was led away, limping and holding his head, apparently after being beaten up.

Armed Afghan security men and soldiers stood by and watched as the angry crowd attacked the embassy.

Some demonstrators surged into the compound, broke into buildings and set fires. The protesters assaulted a Japanese television crew working for the United Nations and snatched the film from the camera of a Reuter photographer.

"Death to Benazir, death to Leghari," they chanted, in reference to Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and President Farouq Leghari.

In Islamabad, Foreign Ministry officials said they had no word on the embassy attack. British diplomats said they were trying to contact Afghan support staff at the British embassy in Kabul. No British diplomats are posted there.

He told reporters the government would provide security at the main United Nations compound in Kabul, which he said could also be a target for demonstrations.

The protesters had gathered in central Kabul ab-

out 10 a.m. (0530 GMT) before marching on the Pakistani embassy, in the former British embassy compound in northern Kabul.

The Afghan government has formally accused Pakistan of aiding the Taliban movement, which captured the key Western city of Herat on Tuesday in a major blow to Mr. Rabbani (see page 2).

A Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman dismissed the charge and said Islamabad was neutral in the Afghan conflict.

Mr. Morad accused Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence network of funding the religiously-minded Taliban, who emerged from the obscurity of Koranic schools in Pakistan last year, with the

aim of opening a trade route to Central Asia through Afghanistan.

"The Taliban are Pakistan's proxy invading army," he said on Tuesday. "They are Taliban in name only."

Official Kabul Radio said Foreign Minister Najibullah Laftari had sent a message to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali accusing Pakistan of "direct aggression."

Islamabad insists it has no favourites among the various Afghan guerrilla factions it supported during a 14-year-old war against a Soviet-backed regime in Kabul.

The loss of Herat was a major setback to Mr. Rabbani's government, whose allies had controlled the city since the collapse of a communist-led government in Kabul in April 1992.

Islam treats men, women as equals — Prince Basma

By Caroline Faraj
Special to the Jordan Times

BEIJING — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma said in a lecture Wednesday that Islam regards women as completely equal to men in all aspects and called for absolute equality among all people with no distinction based on sex, colour or race.

In the lecture entitled "Women and Development — An Islamic Perspective," the Princess said that the respective roles and social functions of both sexes are distributed between them in a manner that does not violate the equal status of men and women.

"No hint is given in the Koran to indicate any male superiority in punishment and reward, and the Koran addressed the human conscience regardless of gender," the Princess said.

"Islam has introduced many provisions that explicitly gave women their full rights of which they had previously been denied," she added.

In addition, Islam regulated the procedures of marriage as well as divorce and the spending of wealth, according to Princess Basma, who stressed also that Islam commanded men to treat women kindly and honour the institution of marriage.

Islamabad insists it has no favourites among the various Afghan guerrilla factions it supported during a 14-year-old war against a Soviet-backed regime in Kabul.

The loss of Herat was a

major setback to Mr. Rabbani's government, whose allies had controlled the city since the collapse of a communist-led government in Kabul in April 1992.

be several heads of women delegations to the World Conference on Women here, the Princess pointed to the women's contributions to social and political life in Islam.

She said books of Sirah (the Prophet's biography) history and literature are full of examples where women personally participated in wars and in tending the sick and providing the troops with food and water.

Contrary to frequent stereotyping in motion pictures, television series and other forms of media, Islam does not regard females as a closed congregation of underprivileged harem, said Princess Basma.

Calling on men and women to work to rectify misconceptions and distortions of the role and status of women in Islam, the Princess said such efforts "are needed in order to enable Muslim women to take up their role in development, a role that was highly significant in the social, economic and cultural fields throughout the past decades of Muslim civilisation."

In reply to a question after the lecture, the Princess said that Jordan was a conservative society respecting religion and traditional custom and values.

The Jordanian family, she added, is the nucleus of society in which women like other societies in the developing world still face problems. But, she said, they are continually involved in programmes that help to improve their status at all levels.

Bahrain government, opposition strike deal

NICOSIA (AFP) — Bahrain is to release on Thursday

almost 150 people held after anti-government demonstrations under a deal reached between the authorities and jailed Shiite opposition leaders, Bahraini lawyers said Wednesday.

About 150 prisoners were already freed on Aug. 16

several days after the deal was reached, and between 500 to 600 would be released in a final, third stage at the end of September, one of the lawyers told AFP in Nicosia by telephone.

Sources close to the

opposition said under the

deal they had agreed not to

hold any demonstrations for

two months. Troubles

erupted in the Gulf archipelago in December, but have

virtually died out since April.

Lawyers said Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Ben Khalifa Al Khalifa and the British advisor for security in Bahrain, Ian Henderson, took part in drawing up the deal along with five opposition leaders.

Leading opposition figures

Abdel Wahab Hussein, who

was arrested in April, would

be among those freed on

Thursday, they added.

He along with Abdul Amir

Al Jamri, Hassan Sultan

and Khalil Sultan had helped to secure the agreement. The last three were released in August, while Mr. Jamri is to

be freed in the third wave,

the lawyer said.

Opposition sources said they had agreed to a two-month period of calm, without any demonstrations, during which the authorities would hold talks with Shiite and Sunni leaders on restoring the constitution.

Parliament has been suspended in the former British protectorate since 1975, and the unrest flared after the arrests of Shiite leaders calling for a restoration of parliamentary life. At least 12 died in a wave of violent protests.

The deal was cautiously welcomed by the London-based Bahrain Freedom Movement which said in a statement "the fate of previous accords with Al Khalifa government does not lend itself to optimism."

However, another opposition group, the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain, (IFLB), said it was not bound by the accord. It urged Bahrainis to "continue their revolt until the legitimate demands of the Bahraini people are met."

The IFLB said in a statement that true dialogue was impossible in Bahrain "because it takes place under the shadow of bayonets," and it voiced doubt whether Mr. Henderson and the government would stick to their side of the deal.

PLO accuses Israel of massacring 450

EREZ (AFP) — The Palestinian National Authority (PNA) charged Wednesday that Israeli troops massacred 450 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip during the 1956 Suez war and demanded an inquiry.

"Israel has to offer an explanation for the massacre committed in Khan Younes," Justice Minister Freih Abu Meddein said.

He was speaking to reporters after meeting Israel's Justice Minister David Libai at the Erez border crossing between Israel and the Gaza Strip.

"Israeli soldiers gathered together 450 people and massacred them in the street."

"It was a war crime," he said.

Palestinian Attorney General Khaled Kidra, who attended the talks, said the killings took place between Nov. 6 and 8, 1956.

The Israeli army, backed by British and French forces, went through the Gaza Strip, which was under Egyptian control, en route to the Sinai peninsula after Egypt's former President Gamal Abdul Nasser nationalised the Suez Canal.

Revelations that Israeli forces massacred hundreds of Egyptians in 1956 and 1967 have led Cairo to demand a

full investigation.

"We have to get the same from Israel as the Egyptians," Mr. Abu Meddein said.

Israeli army chief-of-staff General Amnon Shahak insisted Tuesday that respect for prisoners of war (PoWs) was one of the guiding principles of the Jewish state's

principles.

"Respect for prisoners is one of the overriding principles we have set ourselves, and any deviation from it must be considered as exceptional and unacceptable."

"For at least two decades, very precise standards of behaviour towards prisoners of war have been set, and every soldier in the Israeli army who does not respect them faces legal proceedings."

The army chief added: "These rules have been observed except in some rare, isolated cases which have been examined and judged."

Gen. Shahak said he had ordered special training programmes for behaviour towards PoWs to be distributed to his soldiers.

Around 900 Egyptian soldiers who had surrendered their arms in the 1956 Suez campaign and the June 1967 war were reportedly massacred. Revelations that Israeli forces massacred hundreds of Egyptians in 1956 and 1967 have led Cairo to demand a

New Automated Teller Machine at Abdoun's Orthodox Club Circle.



البنك البريطاني للشرق الأوسط

The British Bank of the Middle East

Your local global bank.

Jebel Hussein: 6074619 Amman Downtown: 636175/6 • Jebel Amman: 643102/6 • Wehdat: 770810 • Zerka: 09-992501